

THE
Family Prayer-Book :
OR,
PRAYERS
To be USED in
FAMILIES
EVERY
MORNING and EVENING.

To which are added
Some DISTINCT FORMS for more Special
and Extraordinary OCCASIONS.

THE SECOND EDITION.

PSALM lxxviii. *God setteth the Solitary in Families.*

JOSHUA xxiv. 15. — *As for Me and My House, We
will serve the LORD.*

*The Constant Worship of God in our Families—is so
necessary to keep alive and to maintain a Sense of God
and Religion in the Minds of Men, that where it is
neglected I do not see how any Family can in Reason
be esteemed a Family of Christians, or indeed to have
any Religion at all. Abp. TILLOTSON's first Sermon
on Family-Religion.*

L O N D O N :

Printed and Sold by J. WAUGH, at the Turk's
Head, in Gracechurch-street. MDCCXLVIII.

10/3

RECEIVED

1864



1864

1864

1864

1864

1864

1864

1864

1864

1864

1864



THE
P R E F A C E.



HE great and too general Neglect of Family-Worship, in a Christian Land, cannot but be Matter of just Concern to every one who wishes well to the Cause of practical Religion and Virtue. Every honest and well-meant Attempt, therefore, to recommend and engage to the stated Performance of so reasonable and advantageous a Duty, will, it is hoped, be acceptable to Persons of such a Character.

With this View has the Author drawn up these Forms of Devotion, to introduce such a Religious Worship into Houses where it has been a Stranger; and to enable all those to perform it in a proper and decent Manner, who, through an invincible Bashfulness, or for other Reasons, would be desirous of some such Assi-

stances. How far they are suited to answer such an End, must be left to the Judgment of others. The Author only begs leave to mention two or three Things, with reference to the Composures, and then humbly recommends them to the Blessing of God, and the Candour of his Fellow-Christians.

It has been his Endeavour to accommodate the Daily Forms to the general States and Circumstances of Families, which are pretty much the same; referring Matters of a more particular Concern to the Distinct Forms at the latter End of the Book: And even in these he has been cautious of being too minute and particular; not only lest he should make his Book of too large a Price, but also because it might not so well agree with what is designed for the Service of the whole Household.

It has also been the Author's Care, as well as he could, to suit these Devotions to Christians of all Denominations; he has therefore avoided any Expressions which might savour of Party, or that might seem peculiar either to those who are Members of the Church of England, or to Protestant Dissenters. And for the same Reason has it been thought most proper to conclude those Prayers, where the Lord's Prayer is not used, with Doxologies taken from Scripture; because all Protestants allow the Scriptures to be the only Rule and Standard of Faith, and the best Directory for Christian Worship. And instead of being straitened and confined by using only these Doxologies, in Scripture Ex-

pressions,



pressions, *the Author has the Pleasure to find a more agreeable Variety, as well as greater Sublimity of Thought and Expression than he could hope to have met with any where else.*

It is thought the Stile and Manner of Expression will not, in general, be reckoned above common Capacities. Whatever metaphorical or figurative Expressions may be taken Notice of, they are chiefly borrowed from Scripture; and such as the very frequent Use of them has rendered familiar to almost every Understanding. And tho' an attentive Reader may perhaps observe some leading Expressions repeated in different Prayers, yet they are but few, and return so seldom, that each Form may be justly called a new One.—For the Paraphrase on the Lord's Prayer, the Author is much indebted to the Great British Paraphrast on that Part of Scripture.

They are printed in so large a Letter that they may be read with greater Ease, Distinctness, and Propriety; and the Lord's Prayer is always printed at length, to prevent any Hurry of Spirits, or Hesitation, which may be occasioned in the Person who reads the Worship of the Family, from the Apprehension of being obliged to repeat something by Heart after he has been reading all the rest. This may often be the Case with a modest Person, especially at the first beginning of this Service, and he may be so confused as even to forget, if not be quite out, in repeating what he knew very well before.

The Author would, therefore, recommend the Reading the whole Service to such as shall think proper to use it, rather than to trust to their Memories, especially for some Time.

There are Prayers for Morning as well as Evening; and it is hoped and desired that those Families who have hitherto contented themselves with Family-Worship only at Night, would think a little seriously about thus Beginning the Day with God. The general Plea against it is the returning Business of the Family, and the World, with the Returning Day. But such Persons would do well seriously to consider, whether that Hurry is not too great, and that Business too much, which takes up the Time that should be allotted for solemn Acknowledging of God, as the Great Preserver of the Household through all the Dangers of the Night; and as that Being who alone can bless the Undertakings of the Day, establish or disappoint the Work of our Hands, and make whatever we do either to prosper, or to prove unsuccessful. Besides, Fear very often puts People upon Prayer at Night; whereas, when the Darkeness is scattered before the rising Sun, their Fears are dispelled too, and their Religion is vanished with their Fears. The Worshipping God stately in the Morning in our Families, therefore, as well as in the Evening, will argue a more lively and abiding Sense of Gratitude, as well as of our Dependence on God; and render

P R E F A C E.

vii

der our Evening-Worship more comfortable to ourselves, and more acceptable to Him.

And that too much of that Time may not be taken up, which is reckoned so precious when the Affairs of this dying World are to be regarded, most of these Daily Prayers will not exceed a Quarter of an Hour, and some are shorter; so that some Portion of Scripture may be read before-hand without any Tedioufness or Inconvenience. But, after all, there must be an inward Approbation of such Worship, or else the shortest Service will be counted a Weariness; which Approbation and Regard will scarce be lasting, except the Professors of Religion keep more at Home in their own Families, and less engage in those Public Diversions and Entertainments, which are the great Reproach of our Nation, and the Ruin of the Rising Age.

The Author has only to add, that the Reason why he conceals his Name, is, this very plain One, because he don't chuse to have it known; and therefore it is needless to enquire after him. He apprehends his Book may be more generally serviceable and acceptable, when it appears in the World only under this Character, as the Work of a real Friend to Religion, and to the Welfare and Happiness of Society.

The RULE for the due Performance of
Family Prayer MORNING and EVENING.

THE MORNING and EVENING PRAYER is to be used in that Apartment of the House, which shall be judged most proper for the Family to meet in, and, most free from Interruption and Disturbance.

The MASTER of the Family is to read the Service himself; kneeling down in a reverent Posture, with his Household about him, and pronouncing the same in a grave, distinct, and serious Manner.

And, in the Absence of a Master, let the devout MISTRESS, or any grave Person whom He or She shall appoint, read the same: That Family Prayers be not omitted or hindered.

Here likewise let it be noted; that the Time or Hour for Prayer both in the Morning and Evening, is to be fixed according to the Circumstances of each Family; only with this one Caution: that it be not deferred too long in the Morning, nor till so late at Night, as that some, if not all the Members of the Family, must unavoidably be fatigued and sleepy.—There is a Time for all Things; therefore for Religion among others: and every Thing is most beautiful in its Season.



A Prayer for the Lord's Day Morning.



OST Glorious and Blessed Majesty ! The Infinite and Eternal God ! Thou art the God of the Spirits of all Flesh ; and to Thee, as the God who hearest Prayer, shall all Flesh come. We, who are immortal Spirits dwelling in Flesh, are now come to worship at Thy Footstool, being encouraged from Thy Gracious Invitation.

WE acknowledge Thee as the God of our Family ; and ascribe it to Thy Power, and preserving Goodness, that we are here alive this Morning before Thee, in the proper Posture of reasonable dependent Creatures !

BLESSED be Thy Name for the Mercies of the last Night, and the comforts

B

forta-

2 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

Comfortable Return of this sacred Morning! Every Day, O Lord, is Thine, and therefore at the Beginning of it would we devote ourselves afresh to Thee: but this is, in a distinguishing Manner, the Day which the Lord has made; we would therefore join in our Family-worship, at our Entrance on such a Day, with a peculiar Pleasure; we would rejoice and be glad therein.

THOU didst create the World in six Days, and restedst the seventh; and, from Thine Own View and Survey of Thy Works, perfectly finished, didst pronounce them all very good. We Thy reasonable Creatures would learn to rest on this Day from our Works, as God did from his; esteeming it our proper and noblest Employment to adore Thee, as the Creator of the Universe, and of ourselves in particular; as the Almighty Upholder and Supporter of all Beings; and especially, as Christians, to
celebrate

Lord's Day Morning. 3

celebrate Thee as God our Saviour and Redeemer !

AND it is a Pleasure to us to think that there are vast Multitudes on such a Day joining, in every Place, in the same Acts of publick Homage and Devotion to Thee ! We are going with the Multitude to keep a holy Day to Thee ; and are glad when our fellow-Worshippers say, come and let us go up to the House of the Lord : O may we enjoy Thy Presence and Blessing there ! Thou hast suited the Institutions of the Gospel to our Circumstances ; to improve our Devotion, to raise our Hearts above this World, to ingage us to a steady and growing Obedience, and so to fit us for Heaven : And we admire O Lord, Thy Wisdom and Grace in such divine Appointments.

FORGIVE us, we beseech Thee, that we have no more improved by these Advantages ; that we have lost so much of our sacred Time, instead of employing it in a diligent Manner

4 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

for the securing these great and important Ends, for which it is vouchsafed to us. How often have we been satisfied with the meer Form and Appearance of Worship, without regarding the Temper of our Minds; and attended on the Exercises of Religion, as if the End was answered as soon as the Service concluded! May we be under the Influence of a different Spirit on this Day; and find we attend on the publick Worship of Thy House more profitably, for our having waited on Thee before in our own.

O LORD! help all our Infirmities, and assist us as we shall be ingaged in the several Parts of Worship. Be with us in Prayer, in Reading and Hearing Thy Word; may we be free from all Prejudice, and receive the Truths of the Gospel in the Love of them. Help us to lay aside all Malice and Guile, and Hypocrisies, and Envy, and Evil-Speakings; and to receive with Meekness the ingrafted Word.

Lord's Day Morning. 5

Word. May we sing Thy Praises with Understanding, and make Melody in our Heart by Psalms; that so being fixed and composed, sincere and upright, through the sacred Exercises of the Day, we may close it with a divine Pleasure and Satisfaction on the Review.

ASSIST, we beseech Thee, O Lord, all Thy Ministers, especially those on whom we attend! May they be well instructed in the Doctrines of the Gospel, and rightly divide the Word of Truth; may Sinners this Day be converted, and Thy People greatly edified and improved!

GRACIOUSLY attend, we beseech Thee, to the united Prayers of all Thy Churches, for enlarging the Kingdom of the Redeemer; that all the Ends of the Earth may see Thy Salvation.

HEAR the several Requests for our Nation, our Civil Government, our King, and every Branch of his Illustrious Household: and let

6 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

particular Case of Sorrow, Affliction, and Distress, that shall be recommended to Thee, be kindly regarded by Thee, O God, whose Compassions never fail !

HEAR in Heaven Thy Dwelling-place ; and do exceeding abundantly for us, and ours, and all Thine, above what we are able to ask, or worthy to receive, for the Sake of Jesus Christ ; through whom alone we call upon Thee, as,

OUR Father, who art in Heaven ; Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation ; but deliver us from Evil : For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever. Amen.

A Pray-

A Prayer for the Lord's Day
Evening.

MOST Glorious, and Everlasting God! Thou, and Thou only art to be feared, to be loved, and adored, as a Being of all possible Perfection! To Thee all Angels cry aloud, the Cherubim, and Seraphim, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and which is, and which is to come; Heaven and Earth are full of the Majesty of Thy Glory! Thousands are before Thee, and ten Thousand Times ten Thousand minister unto Thee!

AND blessed, thrice happy, are those Thy Servants, who dwell in Thy heavenly Temple, who stand continually before Thee, see Thy Face without a Vail, celebrate Thy Perfections in the most exalted Manner, and keep an Everlasting Sabbath in ascribing Salvation, and Blessing, and Honour,
and

8 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

and Glory, to Him that sitteth on the Throne, and to the Lamb for ever !

AND, next to these, blessed are the Men whom Thou choosest, and causest to approach unto Thee, that they may dwell in Thine earthly Courts ; behold Thee in milder Glory, and taste Thy Mercy and Thy Grace there. For it is a comfortable Thought that Thou dost not confine all the Displays of Thy Goodness and Love to that upper World, but hast condescended to pitch Thy Tabernacle with Men on Earth, and converse, in a favourable Manner, with sinful Dust and Ashes !

WE Thy Creatures adore this Condescension ! especially would we now bless Thee for the Fresh discovery we have enjoyed of it by attending Thy House this Day. We hope it has been good for us to draw nigh to God, and that we can say, as the inward sentiment of our souls, How amiable are Thy Tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts !

A Day

A Day in Thy Courts is better than a Thousand! we had rather be Door-keepers in the House of our God, than dwell in the Palaces of Sin and Wickedness without this Liberty.

WE bless Thee for the Ordinances of Thy Gospel, and the Word of the Kingdom which we have been hearing; which is profitable for Doctrine, for Reproof, for Correction, for Instruction in Righteousness: and would now close the public Worship of the Day, in our Family, with Gratitude, Pleasure, and holy Fervour. Accept, we beseech Thee, all our sincere Desires to serve Thee, tho' low, faint, and imperfect; and mercifully forgive all that has been amiss! We can't reflect upon the Worship of the Day, but we have some Reason for Grief and Sorrow. Our best Services need a Mediator to render them well-pleasing in Thy Sight. We lament our Wanderings, our frequent Inattention, the Trifling
C of

10 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

of our Spirits, and the Coldness of our Hearts and Affections!

BE merciful to us, O Lord, and enable us to be more serious and diligent for the future! Forgive, we earnestly pray Thee, our past Mis-improvement of the Means of Grace. Thy Word brings our Sins to our Remembrance. How often have we known our Duty, and yet omitted it; been informed where our true Happiness lies, and yet neglected our Search after it; been convinced of the Vanity of the World, and the Uncertainty of created Good to make us truly blessed, and yet returned to it with as strong a Relish as before! How have either the Businesses, or the Pleasures, or the Cares of this Life, choked the Word, and rendered us barren and unfruitful! O let it not appear, by our After-behaviour, that This must be added to the Number of our lost Sabbaths!

THAT

Lord's Day Evening. 11

THAT it may not, we beseech Thee, O great Lord of the Harvest, prosper the Seed that has been sown on our Hearts this Day ! Bless the Word we have heard ; and, as far as it has been agreeable to the true Doctrine of the Gospel, let it appear to have been profitable to our Souls.

IF good Impressions have been made, if serious Thoughts about our Souls, and another World, have been excited in our Minds, let them not wear off, or be stifled, by our Return to the Business and Concerns of this Life again. If we have been convinced of Sin, may we resolve on Repentance without Delay ; if we have been better acquainted with our Duty, may we be more steadily fixed in the Practice of it : if we have learnt more of God and Heaven, and Eternity, than we knew before, may our Knowledge more powerfully influence our Lives and Conversations ! Assist our Evening Recollections, and may we

12 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

find that the Worship of our Family disposes us for such serious Work.

AND we earnestly pray, that as we pass on from one such sacred Day to another, we may make proportionable Improvements in the Divine Life, and renew our spiritual Strength by thus often waiting on the Lord; and forgetting the Things that are behind, be still reaching forth to those Things which are before: 'till we all come in the Unity of the Faith, and the Knowledge of the Son of God, to the Measure of the Stature of the Fulness that is in Christ! And may this be the blessed End of all our Lord's Days, Sacraments, and Means of Grace on Earth, the compleat Salvation of our immortal Souls!

HEAR, O Lord! we beseech Thee, and answer the Prayers that have been offered to Thee, in all Thy Churches this Day, for spreading the Kingdom and Interest of the Great Redeemer; and for the persecuted
and

and oppressed for Righteousness Sake, that they may go free.

PARTICULARLY regard, we beseech Thee, the Requests made for our Nation, our King, and the whole Royal Family; and let Great-Britain be still the peculiar Care, and favourite Land of the Lord Almighty! To this End, let there be a Spirit of Reformation in the Land; and the Number of those be continually increasing, who shall endeavour to put a Stop to the Progress of Vice and Profaneness, by their Influence and Examples!

MAY all Thy faithful Ministers, O Lord, that have been labouring this Day in the Word and Doctrine, see the Desire of their Souls to their increasing Satisfaction!

GRACIOUSLY regard, we beseech Thee, our Friends and Relations: may they prosper, and be in Health; but above all, may their Souls prosper! Hear the Prayers offered to Thee for the Sick and Weak, the Pained and Distressed;

14 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

Distressed ; and be a Father of the Fatherless, and a God of the Widows who put their Trust in 'Thee !

AND now, O Lord, what wait we for ? our Hope is in Thee ! To Thee we commend ourselves as the Heads
* N. B. To of a Family, [our * Child,
be omitted if there be no or Children, Servant, or Ser-
Children or vants,] and every Member of
Child, Ser- the Household. Let there be
vant or Ser- vants.
no Enemy to God under this
Roof, none worshipping here now,
that shall be missing in the general
Assembly of the First-born above !

GRACIOUSLY watch over us, we beseech Thee, this Evening, preserve us from the Dangers of the Night, and in a following Week ; may we carry about with us the Temper and Spirit of Christians ; and learn to order our worldly Affairs and Conversation aright, that we may at last, through the Merits of Jesus Christ, see Thy Salvation !

Now

Now to God even our Father, and to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the faithful Witness, and the First-begotten from the Dead, and the Prince of the Kings of the Earth ; To Him who loved us, and died to wash us from our Sins in his own Blood, and to make us Kings and Priests unto God and his Father, be Honour and Glory, Salvation, Thanksgiving, and Praise for ever and ever ! Amen !



A Pray-

A Prayer for Monday Morning.

INFINITELY Holy, most Blessed, and Adoreable Majesty ! Thou art possessed of all possible Perfections ! Of Thee are all Things ; for Thou hast created all Things, and for Thy Pleasure they are and were created : Through Thee are all Things ; for Thou upholdest all Things by the Word of Thy Power, and providest for Thy several Creatures, according to Thine Infinite Wisdom and Goodness : And therefore to Thee, O God, are all Things ; and Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever : And to Thee for ever be the Praise !

As Thou hast made us reasonable Creatures, we confess it our bounden Duty to acknowledge Thee, O Lord ! and in a religious and devout Manner to worship and bow down before Thee, as the Lord our Maker. Thine
hands

hands have made us and fashioned us; and, as the Work of Thine Hands, the Creatures of Thy Power, and Thine Offspring, we take Pleasure in worshipping at Thy Footstool.

WE adore and praise Thee O Lord, as our Great Preserver; and with the constant Returns of Morning and Evening, would join together, as a worshipping Family, to bless our constant Almighty Guardian. It is owing to Thy Protection that we have passed another Night in Safety, Thou, O Lord, the great Watchman of Israel, who never slumberest nor sleepest, hast been about our House, and about our Bed, and secured us, in our most unguarded Hours, from all the Dangers and Terrors of the Night; and caused us to meet together this Morning in so much Comfort. We have awaked in the Arms of Thy kind Providence, and are still the Objects of Thy peculiar Care!

D

WHAT

WHAT shall we render unto Thee, O Lord, Thou kind Preserver of Men, for all Thy Benefits? We are less than the least of all Thy Mercies, and unworthy of the Blessings of Thy common Providence. Lord, What is Man that thou art mindful of him? or the Son of Man that Thou visitest him, and dost renew Thy Loving-kindness to him every Morning?

As we are Sinners, and guilty before God, we may justly admire the Patience of the Most High, which has made us awake to another Day of Trial, instead of suffering us to sleep the Sleep of Death, and fixing us in a State of everlasting Punishment! O may Thy Long-suffering and Forbearance, at last, lead us to Repentance!

WE are ashamed, and blush to lift up our Faces to Thee, O Lord, when we seriously think over our manifold Transgressions! How often have we dis-

disobeyed Thy Commandments, and acted contrary to the infinite Obligations we are under to Thee? How have we sinned against all the Grace discovered in Thy Gospel, and Thine abundant Compassions manifested in the Gift of Thy Son!

HERE, O Lord, at Thy Footstool, we confess all our Iniquities! The Sins of our Thoughts, our Words, and our Actions; the Irregularity of our Passions, the Earthliness of our Affections, and all our wilful Violations of Thy holy Law: and most earnestly implore Pardon and Forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our only Redeemer, and Advocate with Thee the Father! for His Sake be merciful, we beseech Thee, to all our Unrighteousness, our Sins and our Iniquities remember no more!

WE now resolve, by Thy Assistance and Grace, never to live in the Practice of any known Sin; and wherein we have done Iniquity to

do so no more : but to walk in the Ways of Holiness and sincere Obedience.

AND, that we may thus live and walk, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, O Heavenly Father, the Influences of Thy Good Spirit, which Thou art always ready to bestow on them that ask them ! Tho' we have too often grieved, and quenched such kind Motions and Suggestions in our Souls ; yet cast us not entirely away from Thy Presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from us ! But may He dwell in us as the Temples of God, and enable us to subdue our Corruptions, to mortify our Appetites and Passions, and to run on in the Way of Thy Commandments with Enlargedness of Heart !

AND as we are now entering on another Day, we would particularly intreat Thy Protection, Guidance, and Blessing through the whole of it. We are going into a World full of
of

of Snares and Dangers: O, do not Thou leave us to Ourselves, or suffer us to be entangled and overcome through the Weakness and Infirmities of the Flesh! But be Thou, O Lord, our Sun and our Shield! And may we endeavour to keep out of the Way of Temptation as much as we can. Especially may we be most on our Guard against the Sins which most easily beset us, that Satan may not gain an Advantage over us!

WE pray, O Lord, further, that Thou wouldest succeed and prosper us in the Business of the Day! May we, in our several Callings and Employments, abide with God, and act, in all our Dealings and Commerce with Men, as becomes the Professors of that Religion, which teaches them to deny all Ungodliness and worldly Lusts; and to live soberly, and righteously, and godly, in the present World! And, as far as we behave in such a Manner, do Thou, O Lord, esta-

22 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

establiſh to us the Work of our Hands;
yea the Work of our Hands establiſh
Thou.it.

AND, O, may we never be ſo deeply engaged, nor ſo much entangled in the Affairs and Concerns of this preſent uncertain Life, as to forget that there is ſtill one Thing which is principally needful for us, the ſecuring the Welfare and Happineſs of our dear immortal Souls! Lord, help us to keep this moſt ſerious Buſineſs prevailingly in our Minds, and to give it the Preference in our general Conduct! And may a Senſe of our too great Neglect of this weighty Affair in Time paſt, quicken us to a better Improvement of all that which may yet remain; that ſo when our laſt Day ſhall dawn upon us, we may not dread the Cloſe of it, but welcome the Night of Death; having a good Hope, through Grace, of awaking to an happy everlaſting Day!

WE

WE pray for all Mankind. Let all our Fellow-creatures become our Fellow-christians! Send, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy Gospel where it is not, and prosper and succeed it where it is already preached! And may all the Professors of it adorn more and more the Doctrine of God our Saviour in all Things!

BLESS, in an especial Manner, we pray Thee, the Nations to which we belong! May his Majesty King GEORGE, be the peculiar Care of Heaven; may the Crown long flourish upon his Head, and all his implacable Enemies be cloathed with Shame. Bless, we pray Thee, their Royal Highnesses the PRINCE and PRINCESS of WALES, and their ISSUE; the DUKE, the PRINCESSES, and every Branch of the Royal Family. And may all our public Affairs be under the wisest and best Direction.

BLESS and prosper, we earnestly beseech Thee, O Lord, the Ministers
of

24 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

of Thine everlasting Gospel of every Denomination; may they rightly divide the Word of Truth, and be so happy as to save themselves, and them that hear them.

BLESS this Family, from the highest to the lowest! May we behave as becomes Persons professing Godliness; and be enabled to fill up every Station and Relation with its proper Duty! And may Thy Candle shine upon our Tabernacle! Do Thou bless us, and we shall be blessed! Preserve to us, we beseech Thee, the Health of our Bodies, and our Capacities for Usefulness and Service in Life; and may we improve every Blessing we receive from Thee to Thine Honour and Glory!

FINALLY, O Lord we recommend to Thy favourable Regard all our Friends and Relations; wherever they are, may they have the Blessing of God with them; and all that which Thou knowest to be best for them bestowed
on

on them ! And we desire to forgive all our Enemies, and beg that God would forgive them too !

THESE our Prayers and Thanksgivings we offer up to Thy Majesty through Jesus our great Intercessor ; in whose Name and Words we further call upon Thee, as,

OUR Father, who art in Heaven ; Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation ; but deliver us from Evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever. Amen.

A Prayer for Monday Evening.

O LORD! Thou art the Ever-Blessed God; the High and Mighty, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords! Thy Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom, and Thy Dominion endureth throughout all Generations. While Creatures change, Thou art the same; and while our Days are passing away in Haste, Thou art without the least Variableness, or Shadow of turning; and Thy Years fail not.

THOU, Lord, art the only sure Object of the Trust and Confidence of frail Mortals, weak and defenceless, and, exposed to innumerable Evils. And, blessed be Thy Name, Thou hast been the Dwelling-place of the Children of Men in every Age untill now!

WHITHER then should a People go, but to their God? Where should such weak and necessitous Beings as we
are

are go, but to a Being of infinite Goodness and Compassion; infinitely Able to help and support us, and infinitely Wise to do it in the best and most proper Manner?

To Thee then would we come, O Lord, as the only proper Object of our Worship; and to Thee alone would we direct our Prayer; for our Help and Hope is in Thee!

ADORED be Thy Condescension, O most glorious God! that tho' Thou art infinitely exalted above all the Blessing and Praise of Heaven, yet Thou givest us Encouragement thus to draw near unto Thee, and to fill our Mouths with Arguments; and hast assured us, that Thou art willing to do exceeding abundantly above what we can ask or think, according to Thy Riches in Glory by Christ Jesus!

BLESSED! for ever Blessed be 'Thy Holy Name, for this great High Priest of our Profession! for this Mediator of the new Covenant,
E 2 through

28 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

through whom we Sinners may approach Thee, and hope for such great and invaluable Blessings from Thee! We come with humble Boldness to Thee, through Him, O Lord! as on a Throne of Grace, to ask of Thee Mercy, and Grace to help us in every Time of Need.

OUR first Petition is for pardoning Mercy: That Thou wouldest, for Christ's Sake, forgive us all our many and aggravated Transgressions! Bless us, even us also, O our Father, with that great Blessing of turning away every one of us from our Iniquities, and then with averting that sore Punishment which our Sins have deserved!

WE would confess our Sins with Shame and Sorrow. O that our Hearts were more thoroughly pierced, and broken for all our Transgressions! How should it confound us to think we have offended so good a God, as Thou art? that we have, in too many
In-

Instances, acted the Part of rebellious Children towards the kindest and best Father ?

WE lament before Thee, O Lord, the Sins of our Hearts, and the Iniquities of our Lives and Conversations ! We are grieved for our daily Failings and Infirmities ! Who can understand his Errors ? Lord, cleanse Thou us from secret Faults ! And may the Blood of Jesus, who, through the eternal Spirit offered up Himself without Spot to God, purge all our Consciences from dead Works to serve Thee, the Living and True God, in all Holiness, and new Obedience !

AND, O give us a comfortable Sense that our Sins are forgiven, upon the Terms of the Gospel-covenant ! Lift up the Light of Thy Countenance upon us, we beseech Thee, O Father of Mercies ! and shed abroad Thy Love in our Hearts ! For in Thy Favour, O Lord, is our Life, and the Happiness of our Souls ; and Thy Lov-

Loving-kindness is better than Life ! with that, we can never be miserable in the worst Condition here, and without it, it is impossible we should be happy in the best.

WHOM, then, have we in Heaven but Thee, O God? and what is there on Earth to be desired in Comparison with Thee? O be thou our Portion and Felicity! and say unto our Souls, Thou art our Salvation! This shall put more Gladness into our Hearts, than in the Time when their Corn and their Wine increase to the Men of this World.

We pray that the Power and Dominion of Sin may be more entirely destroyed in us. To this End, we ask a constant Supply of the Spirit of Jesus, as a Spirit of Purity, of divine Love, of Power, and of a sound Mind! And thus may we be enabled to shew forth all the Fruits of the Spirit abundantly to the Praise and Glory of Thee, our Heavenly Father!

MAY

MAY we be continually adding to our Faith, Virtue ; greater Degrees of Courage in the Profession and Practice of our holy Religion : to our Virtue, Knowledge ; a growing acquaintance with the Things of God, and the Spirit and Temper of Christianity : to our Knowledge, Temperance ; that so we may abstain from all sinful Indulgences, and preserve a stricter Moderation in the Use and Enjoyment of those Things which are lawful : and to our Temperance, help us to add a more confirmed and unbroken Patience ; both in doing and suffering Thy Will, till Thou shalt see fit to release us : to our Patience, may we add Godliness ; a more divine heavenly Temper, and an increasing Preparation for the Business and Blessedness of Heaven : and to our Godliness, may we be adding Brotherly-kindness ; a hearty and growing Affection towards all our Fellow-christians, who have one and the same

same God and Father of all, the same Lord Jesus Christ, as the only Mediator, the same Faith, and the same Baptism: and to our Brotherly-kindness, may we still add Charity; or a more extensively benevolent Temper and Disposition towards all our Fellow-creatures, and a Readiness to forgive even our worst Enemies!

AND, O, may these Virtues not only be in us, but abound; that instead of being barren, we may be fruitful in every good Word and Work: and at last have an abundant Entrance administered to us into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

WITH us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to extend Thy compassionate Regards to the rest of Mankind! Let that happy Time come, when the Sun of Righteousness shall arise, and shine upon those Parts of the Earth, which now sit in Darkness, and in the Region of the Shadow
of

of Death! May he be a Light to enlighten all the Gentiles, and the Glory of thy People Israel!

Put an End, we pray Thee, O Lord! to all Persecution for Conscience sake, and let those Principles which countenance and encourage Cruelty and Oppression, be entirely rooted out; that so all Thy Churches may have Rest, and walking in the Fear of the Lord, and in the Comfort of the Holy Ghost, may be edified and multiplied!

LET the Nations of Great Britain and Ireland, and all belonging to them, be the peculiar Care of Heaven. Continue to us, we pray Thee, O Lord! national Blessings, tho' we have justly forfeited them; and teach us to bring forth Fruits meet for Repentance. Blessed be Thy Name for a protestant King to rule over us! May the Crown sit long and easy upon his Head, and He be continued to us as a lasting Blessing. And may

every Branch of the royal Family
be forming, under a divine Hand,
for those high Stations which Thy
Providence in future Time may call
them to fill!

DIRECT, and bless all privy Coun-
sellors and Ministers of State, that
they may know, and pursue, the
Things which tend to the Welfare
of the Nation. Counsel Thou all
our Counsellors, and teach all our
Senators Wisdom! And grant, O
Lord, that there may be more of
true Religion among all Ranks and
Degrees of Men, from the highest
to the lowest; that Righteousness
may run down our Streets like a River,
and Judgment as a mighty Stream!

AND to this End succeed, O Lord,
we beseech Thee, in an especial Man-
ner, the Ministrations of Thy Gospel,
by every upright and faithful Hand!

WE recommend to Thy Care all
our Friends and Relations. May all
that are dear to us, in the Bonds of
Nature

Nature or Friendship, be related to Thee, and blessed of the God of Heaven! Bless all our Family; and may every Member of this Household be a living Member of Jesus Christ here, and preparing for the Kingdom of his Glory hereafter!

WITH these our Prayers, we offer up unto Thee, O Thou ever bountiful, and gracious God, our most grateful Thanksgivings for all we have, and all the great and glorious Things which thou hast encouraged us to hope for!

WE praise and bless Thee, O Lord, for our Creation; that Thou hast made us reasonable, immortal Beings, capable of knowing, loving, serving Thee here, and enjoying Thee for ever! We bless Thee for our continued Preservation; especially for adding another Day to our Lives! Thou hast kindly preserved us in our going out and coming in, and been with us from Morning until the Evening;

36 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

so that no Danger has befallen us,
or been too hard for us ! Thou hast
spread our Table, filled our Cup, and
given us all Things comfortably to
enjoy ! Especially would we praise
and magnify Thy Name for the Re-
demption of the World, by Thy Son;
for the Means of Grace, and for the
Hopes of Glory.

UNDER a lively Sense of all Thy
Goodness, and being persuaded by
Thine innumerable Mercies and Be-
nefits, do we now renew the solemn
Dedication of ourselves, and our Fa-
mily, to Thee, O Lord, this Night !
Watch over us, we pray Thee, thro'
the whole of it; guard us, and our
Habitation, from every Evil: and in
the Morning let us awake still with
God ! And be Thou with us through
all the remaining Days of our Pilgri-
mage here; and at the End of it re-
ceive us to Thy heavenly House a-
bove ! All which we humbly ask of
Thee,

Thee, through Jesus Christ, our only Redeemer and Advocate.

Now unto the King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible, the Only Wise God, be Honour and Glory for ever! Amen.



YET, as Thou hast made us capable of acknowledging Thee, and hast furnished us with Powers and Capacities which are to be improved and perfected by the noble Exercise of Devotion; we desire to employ ourselves with Pleasure in this most reasonable

A Prayer

A Prayer for Tuesday Morning.

ALMIGHTY and Eternal God! Thou art the Fountain of all Being, Perfection and Blessedness! Great art Thou, O Lord, and greatly to be feared, and Thy Greatness is unsearchable! It is high as Heaven, what can we do? It is deeper than the Grave, what can we know? The Measure thereof is longer than the Earth, and broader than the Sea! What then is our Goodness and Praise, who dwell in Houses of Clay, and whose Foundation is in the Dust? It cannot extend to Thee, O Lord, who art infinitely above all!

YET, as Thou hast made us capable of acknowledging Thee, and hast furnished us with Powers and Capacities which are to be improved and perfected by the noble Exercise of Devotion; we desire to employ ourselves with Pleasure in this most reasonable

sonable Service. And we adore and admire Thy Wisdom, in appointing that Prayer, and Supplication, with Thanksgiving, should be the Means by which such Creatures as we are should secure the Continuance of those Blessings we already enjoy, and derive larger Supplies according to our various Wants!

BUT wherewith shall we come before the Lord? and how shall we bow ourselves before the Most High, that we may be acceptable to Him? We cannot present our Supplications to Thy Majesty as innocent Creatures, or for our own Righteousness; for we have all sinned, and come short of the Glory of God: but we offer them through a Mediator of Thine Own providing, Jesus Christ the Righteous. And through Him we hope to have Access, by One Spirit, unto Thee the Father!

AND now, O Lord, since, in Thine Infinite Compassion, Thou
hast

Thou hast permitted us thus to offer our Petitions and Requests, we are humbly bold to make them all known unto Thee; for our Desire is before Thee, and our Wants cannot be hid from Thee!

As reasonable, immortal Beings, capable of eternal Happiness, We need and desire, above all other Things, Thee for our Portion and Felicity; and the Desire of our Souls is to Thee, and to the Remembrance of Thy Name! Here, from the Objects and Pleasures of Time and Sense, our Desires cannot be fully satisfied; nothing short of Thyself can answer all our Expectations, and fill us with everlasting Peace and Comfort.

AND wilt Thou, O Lord, be our God? Wilt Thou be the Portion of our Inheritance, and of our Cup? Then may we say the Lines are fallen to us in pleasant Places, and we have a goodly Heritage; and we shall have
 abundantly

abundant Cause to bless the Lord. Without Thee, destitute of Thy Favour, in the Fulness of all mortal Sufficiency shall we be in Straits in this World; and our Prospects as to another would be shocking and terrible: but if Thou art our God, we may be content in every State here, and look forward to Eternity with increasing Pleasure!

As ever we would partake of this invaluable Blessing, we desire that all our Sins may be forgiven! Blot out, we humbly pray Thee, O Lord, for Christ's Sake, our Transgressions as a Cloud, and our Iniquities as a **thick** Cloud; that they may not intercept the Communications and Sense of Thy Favour toward us! And may the Power of Sin be destroyed within us, that the Purity, and so the Peace, of our Hearts and Minds, may remain unbroken for the future. And be merciful to our ma-

42 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

nifold Infirmities, our Sins and Iniquities remember no more !

AND being thus reconciled unto Thee through Jesus Christ, we are earnestly desirous of continuing in Thy Favour, and walking worthy of Thee unto all well-pleasing. O ! may we from henceforward take good Heed to ourselves, that we be not intangled in Sin, and overcome. And O ! do Thou help our Infirmities, and may Thy good Spirit assist and supply the Weaknesses, and the Wants, of ours !

WE want strengthening Grace ; we want Courage to hold on in the Practice of our best Resolutions, especially when assaulted with the Sins that do most easily beset us ; we want an increasing Faith in the unseen World, to over-balance the Smiles and Frowns of the present ; we need a more steady Hope, a more confirmed Patience, in order to our
Im-

Improvement in Holiness, till in the End we shall be fit for Heaven.

OF Thee, therefore, O Lord ! do we ask these Blessings, who givest to all liberally, and upbraidest not. Do Thou stablish, strengthen, settle us ; never suffer us to be led into Temptation, but so as to deliver us from the moral Evil of it ! Do Thou increase our Faith, in Proportion to the Greatness of the Objects of it, and the Evidence for it ; that it may be more our distinguishing Character that we walk by Faith, not by Sense ! And may the God of Hope fill us with all Joy and Peace in believing, and assist us unto all Patience and Long-suffering with Joyfulness ; that thus by a patient Continuance in well-doing, and suffering, we may, at the End, obtain Glory, Honour, Immortality, and everlasting Life !

WHILE we dwell in Bodies, we shall want Thy constant daily Care and Provision for them. Thou art

44 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

the great and wondrous Former of them, as well as the Almighty Father of our Spirits! We adore and bless Thee for all that Protection and comfortable Support we have experienced from Thee already; Thou hast watched over our feeble Frames, continued these Bodies in Life, healed their Sicknesses and Diseases: and tho' they are liable to be crushed before the Moth, they yet still remain the Monuments of a Divine Care!

PARTICULARLY would we bless Thee, O Lord, this Morning, for the Refreshments of the last Night, and that we now appear together a Family in Peace, and Safety, and Joy! We still humbly ask the continued Supplies and Aids of Thy good Providence, and the Preservation of our bodily Health, that we may be better fitted for the Service of God and our Souls. And may we preserve these Vessels in Purity, and Temperance,

rance, and Chastity, in Sanctification and Honour, as the Temples of the Holy Ghost !

AND now, Lord, What wait we for ? Our Hope is in Thee ! To Thee, as the great Father of the whole Family in Heaven and Earth, do we recommend all our Fellow-Creatures, the Dwellers upon this Earth ; begging that they may ever share in all the same Blessings of the same wise, and kind, and good Father of us all. And to this End we earnestly pray, that the Gospel may be made known among them in its Purity, and all the Power of its Evidence.

To Thee we recommend all the persecuted for Righteousness Sake, beseeching Thee, that Thou would'st restrain, and, in Thy due Time, destroy, all the Pride, and Fury of Oppressors !-----To Thine especial Care would we recommend our own Lands, and Country. To Thy peculiar Charge, Preservation, Direction,
and

46 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

and Blessing, would we earnestly recommend the civil Government under which we live: the King, as Supreme; His Family ; and all in Authority under Him. O may we all, from the highest to the lowest, be a reformed, that so we may be a happy People!

To Thy Blessing we recommend all faithful Ministers of the Gospel ! praying that they may be wise, holy, and successful ! Especially would we desire Thy Blessing on those Ministers on whom we stately attend, and who are so often mindful of us : May we be among the Seals of their Ministry in the Lord !

To Thee, O Lord, we recommend all our Friends and Relations : may all their Wants be supplied by Thee, and all their Concerns be taken under Thy kind Notice and Regard !

FINALLY, To Thee, O Lord, we recommend Ourselves, and our Family,

mily, for the following Day. We commit our Bodies, and our worldly Concerns, to the Care and Success of Thy kind Providence, and our Souls to the Charge of Thy Grace in a Way of Obedience; humbly praying, that while we are in the World, Thou wouldst keep us from the Evil of it; and bring us safely and comfortably to the End of it.

And may each of us in this Family, the Heads of it, [* the Children] [the Relations] [the Servants of it,] behave better through every Day for our Morning Worship! Let not our Hearts envy Sinners; but
may

* The Words included in Crotchets, [Children] [Relations &c.] are to be left out, when there are none such in the Family; as they may be also added, at pleasure, in all the other Prayers, where the Circumstances of the Family will admit of it. All such Particulars must be left to common Sense and Discretion: And there can be no Form so drawn up, but that it must leave Room for the Person who uses it, to make it more his own, by inserting what more particularly relates to himself, and the Circumstances of his own Family.

48 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

may we be in the Fear of the Lord all the Day long ! And, thus behaving through the Day, may we return to our Worship in the Evening with increasing Pleasure !

AND may the Words of our Mouths, and the Meditations of our Hearts, be now, and at all Times, accepted of Thee, O Lord, Our Strength, and Our Redeemer, through Jesus Christ ! In whose Name and Words we sum up our imperfect Petitions ; humbly calling Thee

OUR Father, who art in Heaven ; Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation ; but deliver us from Evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Prayer for Tuesday Evening.

MOST Blessed, and Glorious Lord! Thou art the King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible, the only Wise God, the Blessed and only Potentate, who dwellest in that Light to which no Man can approach, whom no Man hath seen, or can see; to Whom be all Honour and Power everlasting!

THOUGH Thou art the High and Lofty One that inhabitest Eternity, yet to this Man wilt Thou look, who is of an humble and contrite Spirit, and that trembles at Thy Word; to revive the Spirit of the humble, and to refresh the Heart of the contrite One! We desire to bring with us, now, that humble and contrite Frame and Temper, that our Prayers and Supplications may be acceptable to Thee through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer.

H

WE

WE bless Thee for appointing such a Way of Access to Thee! That, when we could not presume to stand before Thee on the Foot of a Covenant of Innocence, we may approach Thee, with Comfort and Joy, upon the Terms of the Gospel-covenant; which is ratified and confirmed by the Blood of Jesus! For his sake, O Merciful God, hear and accept our evening Worship, and continue Thy Grace and Favour to us!

WE are come, at the close of another Day, to adore that Goodness which has followed us from the Morning until the Evening!

SENSIBLE of our Frailty, and the Need we have of Thy constant Protection and Support, we committed ourselves to Thee in the Morning, not knowing what a Day might bring forth to any of us. And having been watched over in our going out, and coming in, and passed safe, and easy, and comfortably through the Day;

Day; we appear, as grateful Dependants on Thy constant Fatherly Care and Kindness, again to bless Thy Name!

BLESS the Lord, O our Souls, and let all that is within us bless his Holy Name! Bless the Lord, O our Souls, and may we never forget his daily Benefits!

WHEN we reflect on our own Behaviour, how justly might it be expected, that it should have been, in some measure, answerable to all the Mercy and Goodness received from Thee? But, alas, we have reason to be filled with Concern and Shame for our manifold Failings and Follies!

LORD how many Imperfections and Frailties still attend us, through which we are too often drawn aside! How forgetful are we of Thy Love and Goodness! How little sensible of our increasing Obligations to Thee! How vain are our Thoughts! How irregular our Affections! How loud and importunate the Desires and Ap-

petites of the animal Nature ! And how little, if any, Improvement of our Time, and Talents, and various Advantages ! We humble ourselves now, at Thy Footstool, O Lord ; and ask for renewed Pardon, and the Continuance of Thy never-failing Compassions to us, through our Lord Jesus Christ !

IN whatsoever Instances we have behaved too much like those who live without God in the World ; if we have taken any indecent or unbecoming Liberties this Day, or walked in any Respects careless and unwatchful, so as to expose ourselves to the Temptations of Life, to the Reproach of the Enemies of our Religion, or the just Censure of its best Friends ; Lord forgive us ! Forgive, we beseech Thee, our Negligence, our Inattention, and heedless faulty Conduct !

WE most earnestly desire, and pray for a greater Fixedness of Heart,
and

and Steadiness in Thy Ways !----And are determined, by Thy Grace, to labour after such a Temper; and to bring our Souls, and Lives, more habitually under the Influence of our most holy Religion.

To this End do Thou, O Lord, increase our Faith, that it may be a living, powerful Principle of Action! And do not withdraw, or suspend, the Influences of Thy Good Spirit, but continue them to assist our Endeavours, and help our manifold Infirmities; that, our Souls being quickened, guided, and strengthened thereby, our future Days may be spent more to the Honour of Thy Great and Holy Name, and the Credit of our holy Profession; more in Imitation of our Great Master, who went about doing Good; and so more to our own Peace and Comfort upon serious Reflection !

FROM henceforward may we be more diligent in doing that Work
which

54 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

which Thou hast sent us into the World to do, while the Day of Life, and our Capacities and Opportunities are continued to us; lest, as one Night after another brings us nearer to our last, the Night of Death should overtake us unprepared. We dread, above all Things, this Surprise!

GOD forbid that, after all the glorious Light which is come into the World, and has so long shone upon us, we should love Darknes rather than Light, because our Deeds are evil, and then sink down to the Regions of eternal Darknes!

WITH the returning Worship of our Household, we renew our Supplications to Thee, the Father of all the Families of the Earth, for the real Welfare, and truest Happiness of them all. God be merciful to all our Fellow-creatures, and bless them! May Thy Ways be known on the Earth, Thy saving Health among all Nations! That so all the People
may

may know, and worship, and praise Thee, O Lord, the One only Living and True God, through the One Mediator Jesus Christ ! Yea, thus, let all the People praise Thee ! And hasten, we beseech Thee, that happy Time, when all Corruptions shall be thoroughly purged from the Doctrines of the Gospel, and when every Professor of it shall reform his own Practice !

BLESS, in a particular manner, O Lord, our native Land ! And may our King and his Family be the constant Charge of a kind and watchful Providence, Blessings to the Nation, and the happy Instruments, in Thine Hand, of maintaining and continuing our religious and civil Liberties !

BLESS all in public Stations ; may they have Capacities and Integrity equal to them, and become public extensive Blessings to the Community !

SUCCEED,

SUCCEED, we pray Thee, all Gospel Ministrations! May all that are sincere and upright in their Service be owned, encouraged, and accepted; by the Great Lord of the Harvest!

GRACIOUSLY, O Lord, regard all that are near and dear to us in the Bonds of Nature and Friendship! And compassionate every Family in Poverty, Affliction, and Distress; and, out of Thine Infinite Goodness and Mercy, supply the Wants, and relieve the Necessities and Troubles of Thy poor, frail, dependent Creatures!

ACCEPT now, O Lord, we entreat Thee, our evening Prayer and Praise! And continue Thy Care and Protection over this Habitation, and every Member of it the following Night! We are never safe, except Thou, O God, keepest us! but with Thee we shall be secure! May we lye down and be refreshed with quiet Sleep, and arise in the Morning rejoicing

joicing in Thy Love, and disposed more chearfully and thankfully to serve, and obey Thee!—And may our Persons and Services be accepted of Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Advocate!

AND now may the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all! Amen.



A Prayer for Wednesday Morning.

BLESSED and Glorious, Good and Gracious Lord, our God ! Thou art the Lord, the Creator of the Ends of the Earth, who faintest not, neither art Thou weary ! We adore Thee, as our Almighty Creator, as our constant and kind Preserver, and our never-failing, generous Benefactor !

THOU art our Life, and the Length of our Days ; and all the Changes of Time and Nature, the Returns of Day and Night, Evening and Morning, proclaim Thy Faithfulness, and never-failing Goodness !

IT is owing to Thy kind Providence alone, that we are kept safe through the Watches of the last Night ; and that we are all a Family in health at Thy Footstool this Morning. Our Habitation, our frail Bodies, have been mercifully preserved
from

from every Attempt, Sickness, and Danger ; and here we are, through Thy tender Compassions, with the Comforts and Blessings of Life still about us !

WE would love and magnify Thee, O Lord, our God, and study the most proper Returns of Gratitude ! What Obligations are we under to Thee, O Lord, for all Thy Mercies, and for the additional Favour of the last refreshing Night ?

WE would again devote ourselves, and all we have, to Thee, for the returning Day, and for the whole of our Continuance in Life ! Thine we are by all Engagements ; and Thee we ever desire to serve !

But who, or what are we, that Thou shouldest accept an Offering at our Hands ? As merely Thy Creatures, we are not beneath the Notice of an All-wise and Good Creator : But as Sinners, who have broken Thy holy Law, and, with our Reason and Un-

derstanding about us offended Thee, we may well fear, lest He who made us would not have Mercy on us, and He that formed us shew us no Favour !

BUT blessed be Thy Name, O Lord, there is Hope in our Case! Through Jesus Christ, the Son of Thy Love, we may approach Thee, and be accepted! For his Sake draw nigh to us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, and bless us ! Cause Thy Face to shine upon us, and thus shew us that our Iniquities are forgiven. Renew Thy pardoning Mercy to us; according to the Riches of Thy Grace in Him ; and our Sins and our Iniquities remember no more !

WE hope it is our Desire to be the Lord's : to live more to Thine Honour, and to improve our remaining Time more to the Purposes of Thy Glory, and our own Advancement in the christian Life. We are convinced that such a Behaviour is most agree-

agreeable to our reasonable Nature and to Thy just Expectations from us. Henceforth, therefore, are we resolved to pass the remaining Days of our Sojourning here in Thy Fear, and to walk more exactly according to the Rules of the Gospel.

To this End, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to assist us by Thy Holy Spirit! Guide us into the Way of Truth, enable us continually to walk in it, and lead us on, in it, to Life everlasting!

To whom shall we go, but to Thee? What Rule should we follow, but Thine, which will lead us strait to Happiness? And whose Example should we copy after, but that of the Blessed Jesus, who came into this World, and wore our Nature, to teach us how to live in it, and how to die out of it, in the Manner that will be most acceptable and well-pleasing to Thee?

62 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

WE thank Thee, O Heavenly Father, for this perfect Rule of Life given us in Thy Gospel! For this bright Example which Thine own Son, who published this Rule, has set us! We are ambitious of following this great Captain of our Salvation through Life, and to have the same Mind in us which was in him.

GRANT, we beseech Thee, that, henceforward, the Life we shall live in the Flesh may be by the Faith of the Son of God! May we be more entirely subject to his Laws, guided by his Spirit, supported through all the Changes and Temptations of Life by the Promises of his Gospel, and deterred from every Sin by the Threatnings of it! And may every Motive have its due Influence upon us, that we may persevere in Holiness, till we shall come safe to the heavenly World!

WE commit ourselves, as a Family, to Thy Care, for the following

ing Day, not knowing what it may bring forth. We desire to set Thee, the Lord, always before us ; in our Business, in our Diversions, and in all our Conduct : and pray, that we may be enabled to act agreeably to our increasing Obligations, and our repeated Promises ! Suffer us not to forget ourselves ; nor, by any sinful Indulgences, to contradict our Prayers, and so make work for bitter Repentance !

PROSPER, we beseech Thee, all our lawful Undertakings ; provide for our daily returning Wants : bless Thy Servants, and keep us from Evil, that it may not sorely grieve us, for Thy Mercy and Goodness Sake !

Look down, O Lord, with a compassionate Eye on all the Inhabitants of this Earth ! Let the ignorant, idolatrous Part of Mankind, be enlightened with the Light of the Gospel, to give them the Knowledge of Thee, the only true God, in Jesus Christ !

64 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

BLESS our Nations in particular. Let our King, and his Family, be the peculiar Care of Thy kind Providence. And may the Throne of our Sovereign and his House be built up, and established before Thee for ever !

OVER-RULE all Affairs of State, O Thou Great and Infinitely Wise Governor among the Nations, so as shall tend to strengthen the Reformed Religion, and secure to us, and our Posterity, our religious and civil Liberties !

MAY those who are Ministers of Religion, and employed in the Service of immortal Souls, be succeeded and blessed wherever they labour. And, O Thou Great Lord of the Harvest, from Time to Time, send forth more Labourers into Thy Vineyard ! And may the Pleasure of the Lord always prosper in their Hands !

To

To Thee we again recommend ourselves, and every Member of our Family ; desiring above all things to be Thy People, and humbly praying Thou wouldest be our God.

To Thee we recommend the Families of our Friends, and all that are in Affliction and Distress. Do Thou, the kind compassionate Father, be merciful to them all ! Supply their Wants, heal their Sicknesses, and visit them with Thy Grace !

HEAR, we beseech Thee, these our Prayers, and accept of our Praises and Thanksgivings, through Jesus Christ our Lord : In whose prevailing Name and Words we sum up our Petitions ; humbly calling Thee

OUR Father, who art in Heaven :
Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive
K them

66 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

them that trespass against us. And
lead us not into Temptation ; but
deliver us from Evil. For thine is the
Kingdom, and the Power, and the
Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



A Pray-

A Prayer for Wednesday Evening.

O LORD, our God! Thou art the Infinite and Eternal Majesty, the Unchangeable Jehovah; to whom the Night shineth as the Day, and the Darknefs and the Light are both alike!

THERE is no Darknefs, nor Shadow of Death, where the Workers of Iniquity may hide themselves from Thy Presence; neither is there any Creature that is not manifest in Thy Sight: For all Things are naked and open before the Eyes of that God with whom we have to do! Thou knowest the very Secrets of our Hearts, and understandest even our Thoughts afar off!

WE adore Thee as the Only Wise, and All-knowing God! And would come into Thy Presence with that Awe and Reverence which becomes such Creatures as are under Thy constant

68 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

stant Notice and Inspection ; and with such Dispositions as that God requires, who trieth the Heart, and has Pleasure in Uprightness. And, while we are thus waiting on Thee, hear Thou in Heaven, the Habitation of Thy Holiness and Glory ; and, when Thou hearest, forgive, and hearken, and do, and defer not the Blessing, for Thine own Name, and Mercy's sake, O Lord !

AT the Close of another Day we are come to present our Family-Worship at Thy Footstool ; and to acknowledge Thy Goodness through every Part of the Day ! We would esteem this Service not only our Duty, but our unspeakable Privilege ! Happy is it for us, that we may thus make known and recommend our Prayers, and Supplications, and various Wants, to Thee, the Majesty in the Heavens ; and may hope thus to secure Thine Assistance, Guidance, and Blessing !

THE Day is Thine, O Lord, the Night also is Thine ! Thou hast prepared the Light and the Sun ; and Thou hast appointed the Moon for Seasons, and the Sun to know, and keep, the Time of its going down.

THOU hast ordained the Day to Man for Work and Labour, and the Night for his Repose and Rest. When the Sun ariseth, Man goeth forth unto his Work, and unto his Labour, until the Evening. And when the Shadows of the Evening stretch themselves over the Earth, and Thou, Lord, makest Darknes that it is Night ; the Children of Men return, and gather themselves together in their Dwellings, for Security and peaceful Slumbers. And Thine ever wakeful Eye is their Safety and Protection !

IT is Thine Hand, O Lord ! though unseen, and that alone, that has led us through another Day. Thy Providence has watched over us in our
going

going out, and coming in, preserved our Health, and delivered us from every Danger and Evil ! Thy Bounty has supplied our returning Wants, spread our Table, filled our Cup, and our Hearts with Food and Gladness; and Thy constant never-failing Goodness crowns this Evening !

BLESSED be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with His Benefits, even the God of our Salvation ! It is of the Lord's Mercies, that we are not consumed, and because his Compassions fail not ; they are new every Morning, and fresh every Evening ; great is Thy Faithfulness !

BUT, though Thou art so Kind, and Good, and Bountiful to us, yet O Lord ! how unequal, how unsuitable, are our Returns to Thee ? With our Reflections on every Day, we find too just Cause for renewing our Humiliation and Repentance ! If we are free from gross, and wilful Sins, yet frequent are our Failings ; and
in

in how many lesser Instances are we too apt to offend! How irregular our Tempers! How earthly our Affections! How eager our Desires and Pursuits after worldly Good! And how negligent are we about that great and most important Work, for which we were sent into the World!

LORD, forgive us all our Sins, Negligences, and Follies! And may we lye down to Rest pardoned and accepted through Jesus Christ, and so in Peace and Comfort!

WE commit Ourselves to Thy Care for the Night ensuing: and pray, that, as we have hitherto been helped and preserved of Thee, our God, we may still be compassed with Thy Protection and Favour, as with a Shield! Let our fatigued Natures be refreshed with easy and quiet Sleep. Let not Sicknes render the Night uncomfortable, nor any Terrors make us afraid. Keep off from us, we beseech Thee, the Sons of Violence,
and

and devouring Flames ! And may we arise in the Morning with recruited Strength and Vigour ; in full Capacities of Body and Mind for the Duties and Services of Life, and with Hearts and Inclinations to improve them !

AND be with us, O Lord, through all the remaining Time of our Continuance in this World ! May we always bear about in our Minds the Apprehension that we are made for an everlasting State ; and shew that we do really believe this important Truth, by preferring those Things which are eternal, to those which are only seen and temporary ; that it may appear we are in earnest preparing for it !

WE are sensible we have many Enemies that oppose our spiritual Welfare. and that we are compassed with Infirmities and Temptations. And therefore we pray Thee, O heavenly Father, not to leave us
to

to ourselves, nor suffer us to be overcome by them! But assist us, by Thy Good Spirit, to go on, and continue, in the Way of Faith and Holiness to the End. And may we then be so happy, as to receive the End of our Faith, even the Salvation of our Souls!

MAY we take Thy Word for our Rule and Guide, be steady in the Practice of all that Thou requirest of us; and so may we enjoy that Peace and Satisfaction of Mind, which is only the Effect of a Conscience void of Offence towards God, and towards all Men. Guide us by Thy Counsel O Lord, and afterwards receive us to Thy Glory!

WE pray not for ourselves only, but for others; for all our Fellow-creatures, that they may become our Fellow-christians. O suffer them no longer to remain in one continued Night of Darkness, Ignorance, and

L

Super-

Superstition; but may the Day-spring from on high visit them!

WHERE Thy Gospel is professed, may the blessed Fruits of that Profession appear! And let the Ministrations of it in this Nation be accompanied with the Blessing of that God who gives the Success, and Increase! May Sinners be converted to Holiness and Virtue by the preaching of this Gospel; and may good Men be made better, and more established in the Ways of Righteousness: may the fickle and inconstant, become fixed and steady; the feeble-minded, strengthened; and those who are already improving, learn to follow on, that they may still know the Lord!

GRANT, O Lord, that our civil Governors, from the highest to the lowest, may always partake of Thy Counsel and Direction! May our King be wise, as an Angel of God,
to

to go out and in before this great People over whom Thy Providence has set him; may all his Family be blessed with every good and noble Qualification and Endowment: and may all concerned in the Management of the weighty Affairs of the Nation, be Men of a wise, and of an understanding Heart; and steadily pursue such Measures, as shall tend to the Establishment and Continuance of Tranquility, Righteousness, and Holiness!

WE earnestly pray, that all ours may be Thine! May each of them, in every Relation and Station of Life, find their Wants supplied by Thy Kind Providence, and their Souls enriched by Thy Grace!

HEAR, we beseech Thee, O Merciful God, our Prayers for them, and the Prayers of others for us, through Jesus Christ, our great and common Lord, and Intercessor, in

76 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

whom we desire to be found; and
who is over all, God Blessed for ever-
more! Amen.



A Prayer

A Prayer for Thursday Morning.

BLESS the Lord, O our Souls!
O Lord, our God, Thou art
very Great, who art clothed with
Honour and Majesty! Thou coverest
Thyself with Light, as with a Gar-
ment! Thou stretchest out the
Heavens like a Curtain! Thou hast
laid the Foundations of the Earth,
that they should not be moved!

THE World is Thine, O Lord,
and the Fulness thereof! Thou hast
founded it on the Seas, and establish-
ed it upon the Floods! And all that
dwell, not only on this Earth, but
in all Places of Thy boundless Do-
minions, are Thine; the Creatures
of Thy Power, the Children of Thy
Providence, and the Subjects of Thy
Government!

WE, who are a small Part of Thy
Family on Earth, are met together,
with the Return of another Day,
to

to adore and magnify, to bless and praise Thy Holy Name! For, that Thy Name is near, Thy wondrous Works, of Goodness and never-failing Mercy, declare. We have lain us down on our Beds the last Night, and have slept, and are again awaked, the Living to praise Thee, because Thou, O Lord, hast sustained us!

BLESSED be Thy Name, that Thou hast been our Defence and our Refuge amidst all the Dangers and Darkness of the Night; and hast caused us once more to hear and see Thy Loving-kindness in the Morning!

OUR Voice, O Lord, shalt Thou hear also in the Morning! We will speak aloud of Thy Power, and of Thy Mercy; in the Morning will we direct our Prayer to Thee, and will look up!

THOU art not a God that hast Pleasure in Wickedness, neither shall Evil dwell with Thee. The Foolish shall

shall not stand in Thy Sight, with Acceptance, Thou hatest all the Workers of Iniquity. But, as for us, we will come into Thy Presence in the Multitude of Thy Mercy; And in Thy Fear will we present our solemn Worship to Thee in our Household. We would wash our Hands in Innocency; so would we compass Thine Altar, O Lord!

THOUGH our Iniquities have prevailed against us, and exposed us to Thine Anger, and deserved Punishment; yet, since we are heartily sorry for them, and unfeignedly renew our Repentance; we pray earnestly, for the Sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, that as for all our Transgressions Thou wouldest purge them away, and renew to us Thy Pardoning Mercy!

ACCEPT, we beseech Thee, O Lord, of the fresh Surrender and Dedication which we make of ourselves, and our Family, to Thee this Morning!

ing! We are not our own, but Thine. Thou hast made us, Thou hast continually watched over, and preserved us; and Thou hast bought us with a Price, even the precious Blood of Christ, as of a Lamb without Blemish, and without Spot: Thine we are therefore, and Thee will we serve as long as we live, we will praise Thee as long as we have our Beings!

WE commit ourselves, and all belonging to us, to Thy special Care, Protection, and Guidance, through the whole of this Day.

WE are entring on a Day of Business! Be with us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, in all our honest and lawful Undertakings; enable us to be diligent, upright, and faithful, in our several Employments and Stations! Let not our Hearts envy Sinners, but may we be in the Fear of the Lord all the Day long. And do Thou, who art wonderful in Counsel, and excellent in Working, give to us that
Wisdom

Wisdom which is profitable to direct us in our Affairs; and crown all with Thy Blessing, which alone can give Success and Increase, and which addeth no Sorrow with it!

WE are entring on another Day of common Service and Usefulness in Life: Teach us to employ our Talents and Capacities more and more for Thy Honour, and to the Benefit of Mankind. May we more habitually glorify Thee in Body, and in Spirit, which are Thine!

WE are entring on another Day of Trial: Help us, O Lord, we beseech Thee, to acquit ourselves well, through the whole of it; that our own Hearts may not justly reproach, or condemn us for any ill Conduct at the Close: and that we may with Confidence present our Evening Worship to Thee, O God, who art greater than our Hearts, and knowest all things!

M

AND,

AND, to this End, grant, that no Temptation may befall us, but such as is common to human Nature; and do Thou find out a Way for our Escape, that we may be able to bear it!

WE are entring on another Day of Care, and quite ignorant about the Events of it: but, known unto God are all its Events; they are under Thy Direction, and entirely subject to Thy Controul!—Help us that we may be over-careful for nothing. If it be Thy Will, grant, O Lord, that we may pass the Day favourably, and in a comfortable Manner. However, this we pray of Thee, that, whatever may be our Lot, we may, in Patience and Thankfulness, possess our Souls; and have the Peace of God, which passeth all Understanding, to keep our Hearts and Minds by Christ Jesus!

WE are entring on another Day, which still brings us so much nearer
to

to our last Day, and to an awful unchangeable Eternity that shall succeed it:—O Lord, so teach us to number our Days, that we may, the more effectually, apply our Hearts unto Wisdom! We desire to be found discharging the Duty of every Day in the Season thereof; and thus would we wait all the Days of our appointed Time, till our Change comes!

MAY all the Families of Mankind, be taught to know and acknowledge the same God, and Mediator with us! And that they may do so, we pray, O Lord, that they may be enlightened with the Light of Life; That Light which, shining upon a dark apostate World, bringeth Life and Salvation in its Beams!---And may that happy Time come when Jesus, whom we receive as the Messiah, the Christ of God, shall be, in the fullest Manner, a Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy People Israel!

God grant, that We in these Nations, who have so long enjoyed the bright shining of the Sun of Righteousness upon us, may be every Day more careful to walk as becomes the Children of the Light and of the Day, lest Darkness come upon us at unawares!

To this Purpose may all our Princes and Rulers be taught of Thee, and may they all learn so to know, as to obey Thee! Give the King Thy Judgments, O God, and Thy Righteousness to the King's Sons! Bless His Majesty King GEORGE, in His Person, in His Family, in His Council, in His Parliament and their Determinations, in all His Alliances: [and *in His Fleets and Arms, that they may be always employed for the Security of His Crown and People, and for bringing their Enemies into a due and humble Subjection.]

SUC-

* N. B. This may be omitted in a Time of Public Peace and Tranquility,

SUCCEED, we pray Thee, O Lord, all the Endeavours of Thy faithful Ministers! May They be all clothed with Righteousness, that those who attend on their Ministrations may pay a greater Regard to their Instructions; and that all Thy People may shout aloud for Joy.

WE cannot forget our Friends and Relations, when we are asking Mercy and Favour of God for ourselves; nor would we overlook, or pass by our Enemies. May our Enemies become Thy Friends, and ours! And may all our Relations, and Friends, be truly and sincerely Religious; and so Partners with us in the same Faith, and Hope, and Joy, of the Gospel, as they are dear to us on other Accounts!

AND now, O Lord, hear, accept, and bless us for the Sake of Jesus Christ, through whom we humbly call Thee

OUR

OUR Father, who art in Heaven:
Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy King-
dom come. Thy Will be done in
Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us
this Day our daily Bread. And for-
give us our Trespases, as we forgive
them that trespass against us. And
lead us not into Temptation; but
deliver us from Evil. For thine is the
Kingdom, and the Power, and the
Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



A Prayer

A Prayer for Thursday Evening.

O LORD, our God, how excellent is Thy Name in all the Earth! who hast set Thy Glory above the Heavens!

WHEN we consider Thy Heavens, the Work of Thy Fingers, the Moon and the Stars which Thou hast ordained; Lord! What is Man that Thou art mindful of him? Or the Son of Man that Thou visitest him? For Thou hast made him but a little lower than the Angels, and hast crowned him with Glory and Honour!

WHAT are we, O Lord! and what is all our House, so little a Part of Thy Creation, that, instead of being overlooked or lost amidst the Immensity of Thy Works, we are as much the Objects of Thy Care, and the Charge of Thy kind Providence, as if we were the only Creatures of Thy Power!

How

88 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

How astonishing that Almighty Power, by which Thou didst at first create, and art thus for ever able to uphold, maintain, and support, a Universe of Beings! How surprizing that Knowledge and Wisdom that reaches to all the Cases and Circumstances of an infinite Variety of Creatures! How large and munificent that Bounty that supplies all their returning Wants; that opens its Hand, and satisfies the Desires of every Living Thing! And how great is Thy Goodness, O Lord, and Thy tender Mercies, which are over all Thy Works!

It is owing to the constant never-failing Display of this Goodness and tender Mercy of Thine, O Lord, that we Sinners are yet spared, to compass Thy Throne of Grace, instead of being trembling Criminals at Thy Bar of Judgment! Hadst Thou dealt with us as our Iniquities have deserved, we had not now been a Family worshipping before Thee
in

in Comfort, and Hope; but had long ago been the Monuments of Thy Displeasure and Indignation, and sunk into endless Ruin and Despair.

BUT Thou, Lord, art not known to us as a God of Vengeance, by executing the most dreadful Judgments and Punishment upon us; but as a God ready to pardon, and not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to Repentance, and be happy in Thy Favour! Thou art made known to us, in Thy Word in this most engaging Manner: as a God that hast so loved the World, that Thou hast not spared Thine only-begotten Son, but sent Him into the World, and given Him to die for us all; that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting Life!

O Lord, we believe, help Thou our Unbelief! We believe in Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast set forth

N

in

in the Gospel as a Propitiation, and as a Prince and a Saviour, to give Repentance and Remission of Sins. And we desire, more thoroughly, to approve ourselves sincere unfeigned Penitents, that we may obtain, thro' Him, Pardon, Justification, and eternal Life.

WHATEVER has been amiss in our Temper and Conduct, in our Behaviour and Conversation, through the Day past in particular, we beseech Thee, to overlook and forgive; and graciously accept and bless us this Night. For to Thee, O Lord, would we devote ourselves, and our whole Household, in the most serious and humble Manner!

WHILE the Beasts of the Field gather themselves together, and lay them down to Rest at Night, not knowing Thee, nor conscious of the God that formeth the Light, or creates Darkness on the Earth; the Families of Men ought to know,
acknow-

acknowledge, and adore Thee: They ought to bless Thee for Thy past Protection; and, in a Way of rational and devout Supplication, implore it for the future.

WE bless and praise Thy Name, O Lord, together, for the additional Favours of the Day past! We have gone from the Morning until the Evening comfortably enjoying the Day-light, and the Protection and Kindness of that God, who is the Fountain of Light, through every Part of the Day!

BLESSED be Thy Name, if we have succeeded in our worldly Affairs, if the Labour of our Hands has been prospered! Blessed be our Kind Preserver, if we have gone through another Day free from Harm and Danger, and in bodily Health!

AND especially would we bless Thee, if we have escaped any Snare and Temptation, or been enabled to overcome any irregular Appetites or

Passions ! If we have been kept from falling in a scandalous Manner, to the Only Wise God our Saviour, be the Praise !

SPARE US, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to another Day ; and mercifully guard and defend us through this Night ! Bless to us our Slumbers for our comfortable Refreshment. Preserve our Habitation from Harm, and every Kind of Evil. And grant, that in the Morning we may all awake in Health and renewed Vigour, and arise thankfully and chearfully disposed to bless and praise Thee ; and determined to call upon Thee, and to live to Thee, as long as we live !

AND, O, that the Close of every future Day, which Thou shalt vouchsafe to afford us, may find us more disengaged from the present World, and more ingaged, to, and desirous after, a better ! May we be dying daily to the Pleasures, the Profits,
and

and the Honours of this Life; that so we may, when the Time shall come, die the more contentedly and decently out of it! May we glorify Thee on Earth, finish the Work Thou hast given each of us to do; and then, in Thine own due Time, receive us to Thyself, to behold Thy Glory, and to be everlasting Partakers of it, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

AND with regard to the Time and Circumstances of our Departure out of Life, with Submission to Thy Will, O Lord, we most humbly pray Thee, to all the Grace and Favour which Thou hast shewed us all along in Life, to grant us this Request! Not to remove us hence, but with all Advantage for Eternity; when we shall be in the best Preparation of Mind, and in the most Holy Constitution of Soul, in a perfect Renunciation of the Guise of this mad and sinful World; when we shall be entirely resigned up unto Thee, when
we

we shall have clear Acts of Faith in God by Jesus Christ, high and reverential Thoughts of Thee in our Minds, and enlarged and enflamed Affections towards Thee! And at that awful Period, when we are to enter the Conflict with the King of Terrors, afford us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, such a mighty Power and Presence of Thy Good Spirit, that we may have solid Consolation in believing, and avoid all Consternation of Mind, all Doubtfulness and Uncertainty concerning our everlasting Condition; and at length depart in the well-grounded Persuasion, that when we are absent from the Body, we shall be present with the Lord!

THOU hast commanded, O Lord, that Prayers, Supplications, Intercessions, and giving of Thanks, be offered up unto Thee for all Men! Grant, that all Men, every where, may come to the Knowledge of the Truth; that they may not perish in
 Igno-

Ignorance, but be saved with Light and Salvation! To this End may they all know and adore Thee, the One only Living and True God, through the One Mediator between God and Man, even Christ Jesus!

PARTICULARLY would we offer up to Thy Majesty our Prayers and Supplications for our King, His Family, and all that are in Authority under Him; praying that we may all learn to live, under his Government, quiet and peaceable Lives, in all Godliness and Honesty!

REGARD, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the State and Interest of Religion among us! Restrain the Licentiousness and abounding Iniquity of the present Age! Help, Lord, for the godly Man ceaseth, for the faithful greatly fail from among the Children of Men! it is Time for Thee to work, when Men make void Thy Law. Pour out a Spirit of Prayer and Supplication upon the many Families

milies that call not on Thy Name, and live as without God in the World; that so, each Houshold being reformed, a general Reformation may spread, and be compleated!

AND succeed all Endeavours to promote the Cause of practical Religion and Virtue; especially those of Thy faithful Ministers: May they be Blessings and Ornaments to the Church of Christ; and may they be so happy, as to see the Number of the serious devout Members of it continually increasing by their Labours. And may every honest, and good, and religious Man be strengthened and encouraged in his Course, by that God, who is the Righteous Lord who loveth Righteousness, and whose Countenance beholdeth the Upright!

AND now, O Lord, all our Desires are before Thee, and all our Weaknesses and Wants are known to Thee! look down upon us, Thy frail,
weak,

weak, dependent Creatures, who have now, once more, presented ourselves, and our Requests, to Thy Majesty ; and who are humbly bold to put our Trust under the Shadow of Thy Wings ! Hear, we intreat Thee, our Prayers, accept our Thanksgivings and Dedications, and bless us from Thy Mercy Seat, for the Sake of Jesus Christ our Lord ; through whom we offer all our Worship, and in whom Thou art always well-pleased !

Now unto God only Wise, be Glory through Jesus Christ for ever and ever ! Amen.

O

A Prayer

A Prayer for Friday Morning.

MOST Glorious and Eternal Majesty ! Thou art the Most High God, Blessed for ever and ever ! Thou, even Thou, art Lord alone ! Thou hast made Heaven, the Heaven of Heavens, with all their Host, the Earth, and all Things that are therein, the Seas, and all that is therein, and Thou preservest them all, and the Host of Heaven worshippeth Thee !

WHILE all Thy Works, O Lord, in all Places of Thy Dominion, praise Thee ; Thy reasonable Creatures, Thy Saints, shall bless Thee ! We desire with the greatest Fervency of Spirit, and in the most devout and grateful Manner, to bless Thee, the Lord our God, for ever and ever : and would join altogether, with one Heart and Voice, saying ; blessed be Thy Great and Glorious Name, which

which is exalted above all Blessing and Praise!

ADORED be that Power, and Care, and Goodness, to which we owe it that we appear before Thee, another Morning, in Capacities for offering such a reasonable Service to Thee! When we consider to what innumerable Dangers we are exposed, in our unguarded Hours, through all the Darkness of the Night, how many Circumstances must concur to render one Night comfortable and refreshing, and how much the soundest Sleep is the Image of Death; We are surprized, with Pleasure and Thankfulness, that we, and our Family, are still, with renewed Vigour, alive to praise Thee!

How precious are Thy Thoughts towards us, O Lord! How great is the Sum of them! If we should count them, they are more in Number than the Sand!—When we lie

down, and when we awake, we are still with Thee!

How happy are our Circumstances this Morning, in Comparison with those of many of our Fellow-creatures? With how many has the Night past been their last Night, and they have slept the Sleep of Death, and shall no more behold the Light, or the Sun? And yet we are met together again, to see and taste Thy Goodness in the Land of the living!

To how many others has it been a Night of Pain and Wearisomeness, through great bodily Afflictions? They have been full of Tossings too and fro, until the dawning of the Day; saying in the Evening, would to God it were Morning! and now, in the Morning, are wishing for Evening again: while Thou hast made our Beds easy to us, and shed upon us the sweet, and quiet Sleep!

[How

* [How many others have had their Houses disturbed by Storms and Tempests, or broken up by wicked Men, or been alarmed by the Terrors of devouring Fire? while we have laid us down in Peace, and Sleep, and no evil Tidings have come near us; for Thou Lord, hast made us to dwell in Safety!]

BLESSED be God, even the God of our Salvation, to whom alone belong the Issues of Life and Death!

AND now, O Merciful God, as Thou art thus, one Day after another, distinguishing us by Thy preserving Care and Goodness, we desire to distinguish ourselves henceforward by more lively and constant Returns of Gratitude and Obedience!

WE are grieved, O Lord, at our Souls, when we think what unsuitable Returns we have hitherto made
Thee!

* N. B. This Paragraph to be used when any of these Calamities have befallen others, in the Night Season, otherwise it may be omitted.

Thee ! How little of a short Life has been devoted to, and spent for Thee, to whom it is all due, and even an Eternity, to be employed in Thy Praise ! How has a Life, sufficiently vain in itself, been rendered unspeakably more vain, by our fickle, unsteady, foolish, and too often sinful Conduct ! How many of our Days have witnessed to our Neglect and Forgetfulness of Thee, and our Duty ; and to frequent Instances of Disobedience to Thy Holy Laws and Commandments ! Lord, pardon and forgive us all our manifold Iniquities ! our Violations of Thy Holy Law, our Sins of Omission and Commission ! the Miscarriages and Follies, and the greater Transgressions of our Lives ! We are ashamed, and blush to lift up our Faces to Thee, O God !

Thou mightest justly have cut us down, long ago, as Cumberers of the Ground ; and have utterly destroyed us without Remedy : but, blessed be
Thy

Thy Name, as yet there is Hope in our Case; and we are continued in a State of Trial and Probation! We may yet rectify our past Errors and Failings! Those of us that have hitherto been unconcerned about our Souls, and have remained in a State of Folly and Disobedience, may become truly Good; and those who are already Good, in some Degree, may grow still better; and have fresh Time allowed us to improve!

BUT how long Thou wilt lengthen out this Time we know not! We are now in Health, and with Capacities for improving another Day to such valuable and important Purposes; but we know not what this Day may bring forth, nor whether it may not be our last! O how should such a Thought affect us! how should it rouse and quicken our Souls, to an unwearied abounding Diligence, in the Working out our Salvation! since the Time past of our Lives is
more

more than sufficient to have lived as we have done ; and since either our Salvation, or our final Misery and Destruction, are nearer and nearer every Day ! O, that we may now, after all our past Follies, be Wise ; that we may truly understand these Things, and so consider our latter End, as that we may be ready for it whenever it comes !

AND do Thou, O God of all Grace, so assist and help us by Thy Good and Holy Spirit, that we may be quickened to run on in the Way of Thy Commandments ! Incline our Hearts unto Thy Testimonies, that we may perform them always, even unto the End ; and quicken us in Thy Way ! We desire to shew our Love to Thee, by abounding continually in that Way and Behaviour, which Thy Word declares will be most acceptable, and pleasing to Thee !

AND

AND may we be particularly desirous of shewing our Love to that God whom we have not seen, by our Love, and Acts of Kindness and Good-will, to our Brother whom we have seen; and may our Benevolence extend itself even to our Enemies: that we may be the Children of our Father which is in Heaven, who causeth his Sun to rise upon the evil and upon the good; and sendeth Rain upon the just, and upon the unjust: and that we may be the Imitators and Disciples of the Blessed Jesus, who went about doing Good, and died praying for his Enemies and Murderers!

WE would discover this Good-will and Regard to others by praying to God, the Kind and Good Father of all, for their Salvation and Happiness.

THOU, O Lord, hast made of one Blood all Nations of Men to dwell upon the Earth; and hast determined

P

the

the Times afore appointed, and the Bounds of their Habitation ; that they might seek after Thee, if haply they might find Thee: tho' Thou art not far from every one of them, seeing that in Thee they all live, and move, and have their Being !

NEVERTHELESS, too great a Part of this Thy Family are insensible, and ignorant of Thee ! Their Understandings are darkened, through the Ignorance that is in them, because of the Blindness of their Minds: so that they are without God, and without Christ, and without Hope in the World !

BUT do Thou, O Almighty Lord ! who didst at first command the Light to shine out of Darkness, shine among them by Thy Gospel ; to give the Light of the Glory of Thee, the Only true God, in the Face of Jesus Christ ! And may all the Delusions and Impostures of Mahomet, and all the Superstitions of Popery, be entirely

tirely done away, and never heard of any more for ever! And may all the Jews be converted to Christianity, and so believe in that Jesus, as the true Messiah, to whom Moses and all their Prophets gave Witness!

NOR would we omit our devout Remembrance of the Nations to which we belong. Bless our Civil Government, the King at the Head of it, and all in Authority under him; and may we be that happy People whose God is the Lord!

WE pray, in a particular manner, for all our Friends, Relations, and Acquaintance, that they may be all the Friends of God, and Thy Children through Jesus Christ! Give them all that Thou knowest to be best for them, in every State and Condition here, and make them Blessings to us, and to the World about them; and may they inherit Eternal Blessings in the Life which is to come!

Look in Mercy upon our Family, and bless every one in it from the highest to the lowest Station ! May [Parents and Children] Master and Servants, one Relation and another, know each their Duty, and perform it out of a Regard to God and Religion, and a Desire to promote Peace, and Order, and Happiness, in the Household as much as they can !

WATCH over us, O Thou Kind and Gracious Preserver, throughout this Day ! Defend us from all Evil, both of Sin, and of Suffering and Distress ! Help us to walk circumspectly in the World ; and in all our Transactions, in all Company and Conversation, may we consider that we are Christians, and behave Ourselves in such a manner, as shall in no wise disgrace our Character, or dishonour our most Holy Profession ! And may no melancholy Providence interrupt our comfortable Meeting together at the End of this Day, to shew forth
 Thy

Thy Mercy and Thy Faithfulness at Night !

HEAR, O Lord, we beseech Thee, these our Supplications ! Forgive the Iniquity of our holy Things, and fulfil the Desires of our Souls, as Thou, in Thine Infinite Wisdom knowest will be most expedient for us, through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Intercessor at Thy Right Hand : In whose prevailing Name, and comprehensive Words, we conclude our Prayers :

OUR Father, who art in Heaven : Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done as in Heaven, so in Earth. Give us Day by Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Sins, for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. Amen.

A Prayer for Friday Evening.

INFINITE, and Everlasting God! Thou art the Creator of the Heavens and of the Earth, and of all Things Visible and Invisible! Thou art the Father Almighty!

AND Thou art the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord; and, in and through Him, the God of all Mercy, and Grace, and Consolation!

As, in Thine Infinite Wisdom and Goodness, Thou hast discovered Thyself to be God reconciling a guilty World to Thyself through this Thy Son; and hast, by and through Him, published and fixed the Method of Reconciliation; we adore Thy Wisdom and Goodness! and admire how Thou has abounded towards the Children of Men, in all Wisdom and Prudence, and in all the Riches of Thy Grace! O, the Depth of the Riches

Riches both of the Wisdom, and the Knowledge, of God! How unsearchable are Thy Judgments, and Thy Ways past finding out!

IN this happy Way of Thine Appointment, do we Sinners, now O Lord, approach Thee! May our Prayer come up before Thee as Incense, and the lifting up of our Hands as the Evening Sacrifice! And may this Evening Worship and Devotion be acceptable in Thy Sight, O Lord, for the Sake of that Altar on which we present it, which Altar is Christ!

BLESSED, for ever blessed be Thy Name, O Thou never-failing Source of Goodness and Mercy, for the Preservation, and Favours of another Day! Blessed be God, that instead of being dispersed and scattered by those Evils to which every Day exposes us, instead of being interrupted by Sickness and Troubles, instead of falling into irrecoverable Mischief;

no melancholy Providence prevents our Meeting together in a comfortable Manner this Evening at Thy Footstool !

AND here we are calling upon our Souls to praise Thee ; and saying, with one Consent, blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with his Benefits ; who has fed us with Food convenient for us, and continued to us our daily Blessings ! Praised be the Name of the Lord ! We will bless the Lord at all Times, his Praise shall continually be in our Mouths ! and not with our Lips only, but in our Hearts and Lives would we shew forth Thy Praise !

FORGIVE us, gracious God, that our Hearts have been hitherto so little affected with Thy Goodness, and our Obligations to Thee ! Forgive us, that our Lives have so seldom, and so very little, expressed that becoming Sense we ought to have of Thy just Expectations, and our own
Duty !

Duty! Forgive us, that when we have known our Duty, we have neglected to practise it; and, especially, that we have so often acted directly contrary to it!

INNUMERABLE are our Offences, aggravated all our wilful Sins, as committed against the clearest Light, and strongest Love! Lord, have Mercy upon us, for Christ's Sake, miserable Sinners!

THE Day past has witnessed to Thy Mercies, and to our Follies and vain Conduct, if not to that which is notoriously wicked! A slight Review at the Close of every Day will seriously convince us, how very defective we are, in Comparison of what we might be! How much just Reason for Complaint, that we leave undone the Things which ought to be done, in their particular Day and Season; and that we too often do the Things which ought not to be done!

FATHER, forgive us, tho' we have sinned against Heaven, and before
Q Thee;

114 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

Thee ; and lay not our Sins to our Charge, but give us a comfortable Sense of Thy Forgiveness !

MAY we all lie down to Rest this Night in Peace with God, as we desire to do in Peace and Love with all our Fellow-Creatures, and a most hearty Forgiveness of our Enemies ! And thus may our Slumbers be refreshing, and our awaking pleasant with the returning Morning. Keep off from us the Terrors of the Night of every Kind ; and may Thy Protection, O Lord, be the Defence and Security both of us, and our Dwelling !

AND O, that, as the Shadows of one Evening after another are stretching themselves over us, we may be more steadily fixed in serious Thoughtfulness of, and Preparation for, the Night of Death, and the succeeding Day of Judgment ! May we be, above all other Things, concerned to stand approved in Thy Sight at that important

portant Season ! Thy Word assures us, that when that awful Morning shall dawn, many shall wish to have lain still in everlasting Night ; and shall call to the Mountains and to the Rocks to fall on them, and hide them from the Face of Him that sitteth on the Throne, and from the Wrath of the Lamb : for the great Day of his Wrath will then be come, and who may be able to stand !

AND shall any in our Family increase this wretched despairing Number ? God forbid !

To prevent so dismal an End, Lord, help us to examine ourselves now ! May we never be satisfied in any Course of Life, which will be found inconsistent with that Sincerity and Holiness which the Gospel requires, at Thy Tribunal ! And O, do Thou, Lord, still more thoroughly search and try us ; see if there be any wicked Way in us, discover it to us, reclaim us from it, and lead us in the

Way of Life everlasting! That so when Day and Night shall cease, and this World be all in Flames around us, we may lift up our Heads with Joy, as knowing that our Redemption draws nigh!

MAY all the Children of Men become acquainted with the Knowledge of Thee, as the One only Living and True God, who givest to all Life and Breath, and all Things! May the Heathen fear Thy Name, and all the Kindred of the Earth see Thy Glory! That so they may turn unto Thee from Idols, to love and serve Thee as God; and to wait for Thy Son from Heaven, whom Thou hast raised from the Dead, even Jesus, who delivereth from the Wrath to come!

PUT a final Period, we pray Thee O Lord, to all Corruptions of the true Religion! Root out all persecuting Principles, and soften and heal all uncharitable Spirits among
the

the Professors of the Gospel! Let not the Rod of the Wicked always rest upon the Lot of the Righteous, lest the Righteous themselves put forth their Hands unto Iniquity. And may Grace, Mercy, and Peace, be multiplied unto all that love the Lord Jesus Christ in Sincerity!

Look with a compassionate Eye on these Nations. Continue to us the Blessings we at present enjoy, tho' we have too justly forfeited them; and avert the public Judgments which our Iniquities have deserved! Choose rather to reform, than to destroy us! And, O, may Thy Forbearance and Long-suffering at last bring us to Repentance, and produce the proper and genuine Fruits of Righteousness! And do Thou, O Lord, still be our God!

BLESS, with the choicest of Thy Blessings, our most Gracious Sovereign King GEORGE. May he be the Object of Thy special Care! May
his

118 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

his Throne be established by Righteousness, and upholden by Mercy ; in his Days may the Righteous flourish, and may there be Abundance of Peace and Plenty in the Earth ! Bless all his illustrious Family ; and may they become extensive Blessings to the World.

Do Thou preside in our Councils, and over-rule the Management of our public Affairs, so that it may succeed to the Credit, Welfare, and Happiness of the Nation ! Let not our Enemies ever gain an Advantage against us, nor them that hate us triumph over us ! But may we be preserved secure, in the Possession and Enjoyment of our religious and civil Liberties, none being able to make us afraid !

AND O that the Interest of true Religion and Virtue may be continually gaining Strength and Encouragement in the Midst of us ! Revive Thy Work, O Lord, in the Midst
of

of these Years of great Degeneracy! May all those who are employed in the Service of the Gospel, recommend their Doctrine by the Holiness of their Lives, and find that they prosper in their important Work. And while one is planting, and another is watering, do Thou, O Lord of the Harvest, give the Increase!

REMEMBER in Mercy all our Relations and Friends; and may they all be careful to remember, and love, and serve God; and then may they all share in that Favour Thou bearest to Thine own People, and be visited with Thy Salvation!

COMPASSIONATE, we beseech Thee, O Lord, all the Sons and Daughters of Affliction! Deliver the Poor that cry, and the Fatherless that have none to help them! And may the Children of Men, in all their various Distresses, find Relief and Comfort
by

by putting their Trust under the Shadow of Thy Wings!

ACCEPT, we humbly pray Thee, O Lord, these our Petitions, Thanksgivings, and Dedications of Ourselves to Thee, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, in whom we desire to be found!

Now unto him that is able to keep us from falling, and to present us at last faultless before the Presence of his Glory with exceeding Joy; to the Only Wise God our Saviour, be Glory, and Majesty, Dominion, and Power, both now, and ever, Amen.

A Para-

The LORD'S PRAYER para-
phrased for Saturday Morning.

AL MIGHTY God ! Thou art
the Creator and Governor of
all Things ! We adore Thee, as OUR
FATHER,—and the Father of all
the Families of the Earth,—WHO
ART IN HEAVEN, which is the
Habitation of Thy Holiness and of
Thy Glory ; and from thence be-
holdest all Thy Children, and, out
of Thine abundant, infinite Fulness,
suppliest all their Wants !

WE are sensible of our Dependence
on Thee, our Obligations to Thee,
and therefore present Ourselves this
Morning before Thee, to pay Thee
that Honour which is Thy Due ; and
to beg Thou wouldst bless us, even
us also, O, Our Father, with all spi-
ritual Blessings in heavenly Things in
Christ Jesus ; that we may obtain
Thy Favour, who art the most boun-
R tiful

tiful Rewarder of all them that diligently seek Thee!

GRANT, that not only We, but all Thy reasonable Creatures, who are capable of knowing and understanding the Greatness of Thy Perfections, may---HALLOW THY NAME!---may unfeignedly admire and adore Thee; and express their Veneration in Ways suitable to the Condition of their Natures, and the Discoveries of Thy Will!

MAY THY KINGDOM COME!
---Let all Mankind be favoured with the Knowledge of Thy true Religion, and embrace it in their Hearts; that so the Kingdom of Christ, and his Gospel, may be extended over all the Earth; and the eternal Laws of Godliness, Righteousness, Charity, and Sobriety, may be established throughout the whole World!

GRANT that all who profess Thy true Religion, (especially We in these Nations, who are favoured with a protes-

protestant Government) may live in true Obedience to the Laws thereof; and that Men, as far as the Infirmary of their Nature will permit, may obey Thee, with proportionable Sincerity and Constancy, as the Spirits of the Blessed above; that so---**THY WILL MAY BE DONE ON EARTH, AS IT IS DONE IN HEAVEN!**

WE beg Thy constant Regard to us at Thy Footstool! Bestow upon us, we beseech Thee,---**THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD,**---and bless it to us! And through the remaining Part of our Lives, vouchsafe, we humbly pray Thee, as many of the good Things of this present World, as may suffice for our necessary Subsistence, and for the useful and innocent Conveniencies of Life.

BUT above all, we desire the Pardon of our Sins! We have been disobedient Children; but O Thou Father of Mercies, and God of all

Compassion, enter not into Judgment with us, but be gracious unto us! ---**FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES!**---and receive us, returning Prodigals, into Thy Family again; and withhold the Punishment our Iniquities have deserved, for the Sake of Jesus Christ, who is set forth to be our Propitiation and Atonement!

IN like Manner, as we now declare we freely and heartily **FORGIVE OTHERS THEIR TRESPASSES,**---all those Injuries and Offences which have been done by any to us; do Thou, O Lord, who hast made this the Condition of our finding Mercy at Thy Hands, forgive us our ten Thousand Talents, our innumerable aggravated Offences; and grant Thy pardoning Favour, and forgiving Grace!

AND as we are now asking the Pardon of past Sins, so are we desirous to avoid all wilful Sin for the future. To this End we pray, that
 Thou

Thou wouldst not suffer us to be—
LED INTO TEMPTATION,—
but so as to—**DELIVER US FROM**
THE EVIL of complying with it!

TAKE from us, we beseech Thee,
the Causes and Occasions of Temp-
tation to Sin, or else make us supe-
rior to them, by the Assistance of
Thy Holy Spirit with our Endeavours
to resist them; that we may not be
moved by the Enticements of Riches,
or Honours, or Pleasures, or with the
Fear of Want, or Disgrace, or Pain,
to do any Thing, knowingly, con-
trary to Thy Wise, Righteous, and
Holy Will.

AND DELIVER US FROM
all those other EVILS and Calamities,
which, either the Malice of the De-
vil, or the Wickedness of Men, or
the Misfortunes and Changes of this
uncertain World may bring upon us!
May we escape these, if it be good
for us; or, if Thou seeest meet we
should at all be exercised, keep us
from

126 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

from murmuring! Help us in Patience to possess our Souls; and in Thine own due Time make a Way for our Deliverance from them!

THESE Petitions, we, Thy Creatures, Thy Children, offer up thro' Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, to Thee, O God, who canst, and trusting in Thy Mercy that Thou wilt, do more for us than we can desire or deserve! **FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM,** and Thou art the only Ruler and Governor of the World! **THINE IS THE POWER,** who art the Lord God Omnipotent! And **THINE IS THE GLORY,** and the Victory, and the Majesty, **FOR EVER, AMEN.**

A Prayer

A Prayer for Saturday Evening.

ALMIGHTY and Everlasting God, the Lord, unchangeably the same, Yesterday, to Day, and for evermore! Who can by searching find out God? Who can find out the Almighty to Perfection? We know something of Thee by the Works of Nature; Thy Goodness shines in the Sun, breathes in the Air, and is discovered, in innumerable Instances, in all thy Conduct towards the Variety of Thy Creatures! Thy Power and Wisdom are written down, in the strongest Characters, upon all the Works of Thine Hands! But we know still more of Thee in the Revelation of Thy Word. Thou art there discovered in a Manner suitable to our State and Circumstances; and so as may engage our Love, Worship, and Obedience!

WE

WE would address Thee, not as the unknown God, notwithstanding Thou art so far above us, but, as the Being who hast manifested Thyself to us, in some Measure; tho' Eye had not seen, nor Ear heard, nor hath it entered into the Heart of Man to conceive the exceeding Greatness of Thy Majesty and Glory!

WE, who have not only the Light of Nature, but of the Gospel too, must be the most inexcusable of all the Children of Men, if we do not glorify Thee as God, and perform a regular Homage, Worship, and Obedience!

WE adore Thee for all Thy Kindness and Mercy towards us, tho' sinful Creatures! For all Thy Patience and Forbearance, Love and Goodwill. Thou causest the Blessings of Thy Providence to descend constantly upon us, tho' unthankful and evil. The Day and Week past have been Witness that Thy Compassions never fail! What shall we render unto
Thee,

Thee, our God? We close the Day with Thanksgiving: unto Thee, O God, do we give Thanks, unto Thee do we give Thanks, for that Thy Name is near, Thy wondrous Works declare!

LORD, we return with Shame to Thy Footstool, on our own Account, to think, how contentedly we pass our Days without Thee! how little Gratitude we feel rising in our Souls! to think how often we offend Thee! To recollect the Follies and Failings of this Day, and every Day; to think over these Things, is enough to make us ashamed, and blush to lift up our Faces to Thee! Lord, forgive us, for the Sake of Jesus Christ, and may we be again received into Thy Favour! Let us not lie down to Rest this Night in an unpardoned State, with the Guilt of the Day and Week upon us; but may we lie down in Peace, having our Consciences afresh

S sprink-

sprinkled from dead Works by the Sprinkling of the Blood of Jesus!

WE pray also, that our frail Bodies may be recruited by seasonable Sleep; that Disorders may be kept off, and we may, as formerly, behold the returning Morning with Joy and Pleasure, and with a Temper of Mind suited to Thy Holy Day.

AND O help us, by Thy Grace and Spirit, to improve our Time to nobler Purposes! We desire chiefly to value Life, as it is an Opportunity of serving Thee, and doing Good in a wicked World.

WE would not, therefore, neglect to use the Talents, and Advantages Thou puttest into our Hands; much less would we abuse them. O assist us so to work, and to perform the Duties and Services of Life, while it is called to-Day, that when the Night comes we may be ready to retire, to leave the World, and die! Help, us to this Purpose,

Purpose, often to be thinking on our latter End ; and so to number our Days, as to apply our Hearts unto the truest Wisdom !

GRANT that each of us, in the several Relations of Life, and in the higher or lower Stations of this Family, may all act out of a Regard to Thee, and with an Eye to the strict and awful Account we must all give at Thy Tribunal ! And O that we may be able to stand in the Judgment, and be owned as Thy faithful Servants then !

WE renew our Petitions for the whole Race of Mankind ; for our Nation, and Thine Interest in particular. We pray for our King, and the whole Royal Family ; and beg that all may know Thee, and practise Thy Commands, from the least, even to the greatest !

We pray, that to this End, Thou wouldest succeed the preaching of

S 2

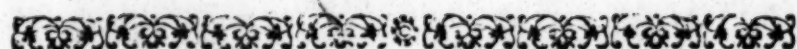
the

132 *The Family Prayer-Book.*

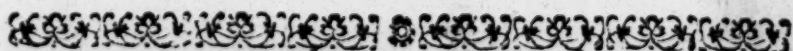
the Everlasting Gospel on the Morrow by every faithful Minister.

FINALLY, we recommend all our Friends and Relations to Thee ; and pray for the Forgiveness of all our Enemies. And, renewing the Dedication of Ourselves and Family to Thee, we desire to be heard and accepted through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ alone, who is Thy beloved Son, in whom Thou art always well-pleased, and to whom be Glory and Dominion for evermore! Amen.





SOME
DISTINCT FORMS
OF
Prayer *and* Devotion,
To be USED in
FAMILIES
ON
EXTRAORDINARY OCCASIONS.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1903

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN RE

JAMES M. LEE

VS

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



A Prayer for a Family, when any Member of it is Sick, to be used either Morning or Evening.



MOST Great, and Glorious God! Thou art the Maker and Sovereign Lord of all ! Thou killest, and Thou makest alive ; Thou woundest, and Thou healest ; Thou bringest down to the Gates of the Grave, and Thou raisest up again ! And Thou dost according to Thy Will in the Armies of Heaven, and among all the Inhabitants of the Earth : and none can stay Thine Hand, or say unto Thee, what dost Thou ?

YET Righteous art Thou in all Thy Ways, and Holy in all Thy Works,
and

136 *Prayers for Families*

and Good in all the Dispensations of Thy Providence towards the Children of Men ; even in those which are afflictive, and for the present not joyous, but grievous !

WE believe that Thou dost never willingly afflict, nor grieve the Children of Men ; but that it is, if needs be, that we, or any belonging to us, are at any Time in Heaviness through Trials, and Distresses !

THOUGH, therefore, Thou hast now visited our Family with Sickness, and we are humbling ourselves under Thy Mighty Hand, yet we would still adore, and love, and bless, and speak well of Thy Name !

WE desire, at this Season, to bless and praise Thee, O Lord, for all the past Mercies with which Thou hast visited us, and our Household ! God forbid, that the present Trouble and Suffering should make us forget those many, those constant Benefits wherewith Thou hast been daily loading

loading us!—How great is the Sum of them? more than the Hairs of our Heads, and innumerable as the Sands upon the Sea-shore!

How long have we enjoyed family Comforts and Blessings, without any Interruption? How long has each Member of our House lain down, and risen up, gone out, and come in, in Health and Ease? How long has Thy Candle shone upon our Tabernacle without any interposing Cloud? O Blessed be Thy Good and Holy Name, O Lord, for these constant, these never-ceasing Favours! We are less than the least of all the Mercy, and of all the Truth Thou hast caused to pass before us!

AND, when we consider how unworthy our Sins have rendered us of the least Notice, and Regard from Thee; when we consider how we have exposed ourselves, by our numberless Transgressions, to Thine Anger, and all the dreadful

T

Effects

Effects of it, both in Time and to Eternity ; we are amazed that we are yet alive ! We are astonished, that instead of suffering so little as we have, we are not sinking under the Weight of Thine heavy Indignation ! The least Mercy we receive from Thee is more than we deserve, and the greatest Affliction less !

WHEREFORE then should living Men complain ? Men, and Transgressors, for the Punishment of their Sins ? Shall we receive so much Good at the Hand of the Lord ; and shall we not also patiently, and contentedly, receive Evil ?

YES, O Lord, here we are, at Thy Footstool, desirous of bringing our Wills into a full Subjection to Thine, O Thou great Father of our Spirits, that so we may live !

BLESSED be Thy Condescending Goodness and Compassion, that Thou hast opened a Way for our Relief under every mortal Trouble, by thus directing,

directing, in Thy Word;--Is any Man afflicted? let him pray!--To Thee, O Father of Mercies, do we direct our Supplications at this Time! O Lord, be not far from us, when Trouble is so near!

IN an entire Submission to the Determinations of Thy Wise and Holy Will, do we now earnestly pray for Thy Servant under Thine afflicting Hand, whose Sickness fills us with so much Concern. Look upon Him [or Her] in his low Estate, and remember Him because Thy Mercy endureth for ever! Suffer not, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the Disorder to proceed! Let not this Sickness be unto Death, but to the Glory of God! Thou knowest his Frame, Lord lay no more upon Him than Thou wilt enable Him decently to bear! And, O Thou great Physician, without whom all others are of no Value, do Thou direct to the most proper and suitable Prescriptions in such a

Cafe; guide them in their Operation, and give Thy Blessing, and the desired Success in the Use of them! And in Thy due Time restore Thy Servant to Health and Strength again; and to a Capacity for honouring and serving Thee in his Family, and the World about Him.

IN the mean Time we desire and pray, that the Affliction may be sanctified to Him [or Her.] Blessed is the Man whom Thou chastenest, O Lord, and teacheest out of Thy Law! May he learn Obedience by the Things which he suffers! Know Thou his Soul in his Adversity! And give Him that Patience and Resignation that is so necessary, and becoming in his Condition! Look upon his Affliction and his Pain, and forgive all his Sin! And may he be raised up from his sick Bed, to praise Thy Name, to pay those Vows which He makes in Trouble, in the Assemblies of Thy
Saints,

Saints, and to walk before Thee in the Land of the Living!

[* BUT if Thou dost not see fit to spare Him [or Her] to us, prepare every one of this Family, as we are severally related in it, for the awful Stroke; and Thy Holy Will be done! Into Thy Hands we commend Him, as into the Hands of a Faithful Creator, and a Merciful Redeemer!

AND, Lord, Help us, that are now in Health, to be preparing for Sickness! Let not the youngest of us boast in our Strength, or Vigour; but may we use our various Talents, while we have them, in a Course of Well-doing, and performing the Work and Duty of every Day, in the Season thereof, not boasting ourselves of to-morrow! That so whenever Thou shalt call any of us to our Chambers,

* This Paragraph may be used, or omitted, according to the Degrees of Danger in the Sickness; tho' not improper in every Stage of a Disorder, since we know not what will be the Issue.

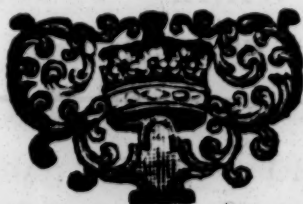
Chambers, and Beds of Sickness, we may not be affrighted at the Summons, but retire contentedly. And may we then have those Consolations and Supports, which the World can neither give nor take away !

HEAR us, O Lord our God, in these our humble Requests, and regard the Voice of our Supplication ; for unto Thee do we cry, O our King, and our God ! Mercifully preserve our Health, who yet enjoy it ; watch over us, and all ours, both by Day and by Night ! Give Rest to those who are wearied with Affliction, and Thy Blessing to make the Conveniences of Life truly comfortable and useful to those who yet enjoy them without any Interruption ! And forgive us our Sins, and accept our Persons and Services through Jesus Christ our Lord !

THROUGH Him we recommend unto Thee all our Fellow-creatures ; our Nation in particular ; our Civil
Go-

Government; and all the Concerns of Religion and Virtue: and in his Name and Words we do further humbly call upon Thee!

OUR Father, who art in Heaven: Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever! Amen.



A Family Thanksgiving for the Recovery of the Sick Person.

MOST Gracious and Holy, Good and Merciful God! Thou art Good, and Thou doest Good, and Thy tender Mercies and Compassions are over all the Works of Thine Hands! and this is the Message which we have heard, which we have seen, and which some of us have particularly experienced, that God is Love!

BLESSED, for ever Blessed be Thy Name, that instead of being known to us by the Judgments which Thou mightest righteously execute upon us, Thou art manifested to us, as the God, willing to forgive all our Iniquities, who healest all our Diseases, who renewest our Youth, and Health, and Vigour; and crownest us with constant Loving-kindness! How art Thou better to us than
our

our fearful Apprehensions, and than our largest Hopes and Expectations! O that Men would praise the Lord for his Goodness, and for his wonderful Works to the Children of Men!

O, LET us, in this Family, give Thanks unto the Lord; for we have abundant Reason to say, He is Good, because his Mercy endureth for ever! O give Thanks unto the God of gods; for his Mercy endureth for ever! O give Thanks unto the Lord of lords; for his Mercy endureth for ever! To Him who alone doth great Wonders; for his Mercy endureth for ever! To Him who hath remembred us in our low Estate; for his Mercy endureth for ever!

THE Voice of Rejoicing and Salvation is now in our Tabernacle: The right Hand of the Lord doth mighty Things. Thy right Hand, O Lord, is exalted!

THY Servant, whom Thou hast lately afflicted, shall not die, but
U live,

live, and declare the Works of the Lord! The Lord hath chastened him [or her] sore; but, adored be His sparing Mercy, he hath not delivered over unto Death! The Grave cannot praise Thee, Death cannot celebrate Thee; They that go down into the Pit cannot hope for Thy Truth: the living, the living, they shall praise Thee, as Thy restored Servant does at this Time; and we join with him [or her] in the grateful Thanksgiving!---The Parents to the Children shall make known Thy Truth!

THE Lord was ready to save: therefore will we sing Praises unto his Name all the Days of our Life, in our own House, as well as in the House of the Lord!

ACCEPT, O Lord, we beseech Thee, the Thanksgiving of Thy Servant in particular! Thou hast delivered his [or her] Soul from Death, his Eyes from Tears, and his Feet from falling.
ing.

ing. O may he love the Lord who has heard his Voice, and his Supplications; and endeavour to walk more exactly before Thee in the Land of the living! And O that Thou wouldest be pleased to perfect all that concerneth the Recovery, that Thy Servant may be enabled to go to Thine House; and there may we be among the People that shall witness to his Payment of his Vows; and join with him in offering the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving, and calling upon the Name of the Lord!

AND O that this remarkable Instance of Thy Goodness and Mercy, O Heavenly Father, may affect and influence all of us before Thee in a proper Manner!

MAY we, every one learn, more sensibly, that our greatest worldly Good, our dearest Comforts, are not in our own Hands; but that we depend on God for them all! May we consider them as Thy Gifts, O Lord,

that Thou makest every earthly Blessing to be to us what it is ; and may we use and enjoy them all, as those who know the Fashion of this World is passing away, and we ourselves with it !

GOD grant, that we may learn, from this late Affliction in our Family, to live more like Persons who are not to live together always here ; and so to behave, as that we may be better prepared for a Breach in our Family, when God shall see fit to make it ! And then, which soever of us is called away first, may we be ready to obey the Summons ; and, tho' parted here, be joined to the nobler Family above ! and may we all meet happily there together, and be for ever with one another, and with the Lord !

THAT we may not be disappointed in so comfortable an Hope and Expectation, may we be quickened, henceforward, to a more abounding Diligence

gence in working that Work for which Thou hast sent us into the World. May we learn to fill up our Stations and Relations in our Family better than we have done ! May we dwell together, as Brethren, in Unity and Love ; and may none of us give any just Occasion of Grief, or Uneasiness, or Disgust, by any real Misconduct : but may our whole Deportment be more under the Influence of that Wisdom which is from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of Mercy, and of good Fruits, without Partiality, and without Hypocrisy !

HELP us, O Lord, to preserve a more habitually chearful, and thankful Frame, from a lively Sense of our increasing Obligations to Thee ; especially for the late additional Mercy, which we hope no Temptations of sensual Pleasure, nor Sufferings, shall ever make us forget ! And thus may we be always disposed for the
Work

Work of Thanksgiving, and find peculiar Delight therein!

REGARD, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the State of Mankind in general, of Religion in particular; and forsake not thine own Cause in a degenerate World! But appear for the Honour of Thy great Name, and that of Thy Son Jesus Christ, and for the Encouragement of all those who wish well to them, and are desirous, and endeavouring, in a proper Way, to support and spread the Knowledge of them. Overlook, we beseech Thee, and direct public, national Affairs, both abroad and at home; prevent national Calamities, continue to us healthful and fruitful Seasons, and so fill our Hearts with Food and Gladness! And, above all, make us grateful and obedient amidst Thy rich Abundance!

AND now, Lord, with Pleasure, and joyful Hearts, do we again devote and consecrate ourselves and
our

our Family, and all we have, and are, to 'Thee, for all our remaining Days and Nights in this World, and to the End! Be with us when we are called to pass through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, may we then fear no Evil, but guard Thou us through the Passage, and bring us safe to Thine eternal Kingdom and Glory; and all we humbly ask, tho' unworthy, in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who ever lives to make Intercession for us!

Now unto Him that sitteth upon the Throne, and to the Lamb that was slain, and has redeemed us unto God by his Blood, be all Honour and Glory, Dominion and Majesty, for ever and ever! Amen.

A Refig-

A Resignation, and Prayer, for a Family, when God has made a Breach in it by Death.

GREAT and Adorable Majesty! Thou, even Thou only, art to be feared, and who may stand before Thee when once Thou art angry! When Thou with Rebukes dost correct Man for Iniquity, Thou makest his Beauty to consume away like a Moth fretting a Garment! And who knows the Power of Thine Indignation? according to Thy Fear, so is Thy Wrath! Our Flesh trembleth for Fear of Thee, and we are afraid of Thy Judgments; for Thou turnest Man to Destruction, and sayest, return, Ye Children of Men!

WE, poor frail Creatures, now before Thee, are brought low by Thine afflicting Hand; by the Stroke of Thy Rod are we sorely troubled!

IT

It has pleased Thine Infinite Wisdom to make ours a House of mourning, by taking away the desirable Life of Thy Servant; and Thou hast thus awfully weakened the Strength, and interrupted the Comfort and Joy, of our Family! And, while each of us now sensibly feel our Loss, we cannot help expressing our tender inward Sense of it, in the Language of Grief and Sorrow!

YET we desire to keep our Sorrow and Grief within those Bounds, which Reason and Religion prescribe. However painful the Separation may be, yet we dread the Thoughts of sinning against Thee, by censuring Thy Dealings in our own Minds; especially by speaking rashly and unadvisedly with our Lips, and charging God foolishly!

WE would lay our Hands upon our Mouths, and fall down now before Thee, and humbly acknowledge Thy Sovereign Right to dispose of

X

us,

us, and all we have and are, how Thou pleasest! We are in Thy Hands, as the Clay is in the Hand of the Potter. Thou didst make us at first according to Thy Will, Thou didst breathe into us the Breath of Life, and we became living and reasonable Creatures; and whensoever Thou pleasest Thou takest away our Breath, and we die, and return to our Dust; and who shall hinder Thee?

THOU art the God who first settest the Solitary in Families, and Thou hast a Right, therefore, to unsettle them again, or to remove and take away one or another Member of them, when and how Thou pleasest! and it becomes us to say, it is the LORD, let Him do what seemeth Him Good! O Lord, we are, above all Things, desirous thus to resign to Thy disposing Providence, and to suit our Spirits to this present mournful Dispensation! We desire to have this the Language of our Hearts,
which

which we now express in Words before Thee; The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, and blessed be the Name of the Lord!

THUS teach us, O Thou God of all Compassions, to bear and submit to Thy Wise and Righteous Will, and so to compose our Spirits, that we may be fit for the Consolations of our most Holy Religion, and not be swallowed up of over-much Sorrow!

WE most earnestly pray that this Breach in our Family may be sanctified to every Member of it! May we inquire into the Design of Thy Providence towards us, and be solicitous to know, wherefore the Lord is thus contending with us! That so, if any Thing in our Temper and Conduct rendered this Rebuke necessary, we may be humbled for our Faults, and live and act better for the Time to come! Blessed be Thy Name for continuing our Friend to

us so long! If we have received any Advantage from him, [or her] while living, we desire to thank Thee for it, and to make a right Improvement of his Death! O may we be more affected with the Frailty and Mortality of Man! What are we, and all our Race, O Lord, but Vanity and a Shadow! We desire seriously to consider Death as the End of all Men, and now, while living, seriously to lay it to Heart!

AND when we think that Death entered into the World by Sin, and that it is to pass upon all Men, for that all have sinned; and that we ourselves are only reprieved for a little while, but must shortly become Death's Captives too; O that we may see the horrid Evil of Sin, and repent of all our Iniquities, while there is Time and Space for Repentance, that so we may not fall under the second Death, which is eternal!

God

God be merciful to us, and for Christ's Sake forgive us all our Trespases !

ARE there any in this Household that have hitherto been careless and unconcerned about their Souls? Lord, awaken them from their Security ! May this Messenger from the Dead startle them, and bring them to that Temper and Behaviour, to which all Callings, and Exhortations, and Counsels of Thy Word, have hitherto been ineffectual ! Are there others among us, who have abated our Zeal in Religion, and forgot ourselves, and lived too much like the Men of this World ? O that this Providence may bring us to Recollection, and a greater Fixedness and Seriousness of Spirit ! May we repent, and do our first Works ; lest when our Master cometh we be found sleeping ! And may the best of us be quickened to a greater Diligence, that whatsoever our Hand findeth to do, we may do it with all our Might ;
since

158 *Prayers for Families*

since there is no Work, nor Device,
nor Knowledge, nor Wisdom in the
Grave, whither we are all going !

MAY we all keep it constantly in
Remembrance, how short our Time
is, how much depends on a right
Improvement of it, and how uncer-
tain its Continuance is to each ; that
so we may not boast ourselves of to-
morrow, since we know not what
a Day may bring forth ! But may
we now, in this our Day, mind the
Things which belong to our ever-
lasting Peace before they are hid from
our Eyes, and fill up every remain-
ing Day well : that so our last Day
may be our best, and the Day of our
Death better than the Day of our
Birth ! Blessed are those Servants,
whom their Lord, when he cometh,
shall find so doing !

BLESSED be Thy Name, that in
this World of Darknes, Sorrow, and
Death, Life and Immortality are
brought to Light by the Gospel !
Blessed

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has begotten us again to a lively Hope (by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead) of an Inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for us! Adored be Thy bounteous Goodness, O Lord, for the Comforts and Prospects which Christianity affords us!

WE believe in God, we believe also in Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our Faith! Through Him we may hope that all the Troubles of this mortal Life shall end in everlasting Joy; through Him we may hope, not only for the compleat Happiness of our Souls in another World, but for the Resurrection of our Bodies to Glory, Honour, and Immortality! O that these Consolations may be ours! May we be sure of a Title to them, by being reconciled to God through his Son, and having our Sins pardoned; and then may we
comfort

comfort ourselves, and one another,
with these Words !

AND now unto That Glorious
Lord, who was dead, and is alive
again, and lives for evermore, and
has the Keys of Hell and Death ;
and who hath both died, and rose
again, and revived, that He might
be Lord both of the dead and of
the living ! To Him be Honour and
Glory, Salvation, Victory, Triumph,
and Dominion, for ever and ever !
Amen.



A Prayer

A Prayer to be used when a Family,
or the greater Part of it, is under-
taking a Journey.

MOST Blessed, and Everlast-
ing God! Thou art Great,
and of great Power, and Thine Un-
derstanding is Infinite! Thou, O
Lord, hast searched and known us,
Thou understandest our Thoughts
afar off; Thou compassedst our Path,
and our lying down, and art ac-
quainted with all our Ways!

WHITHER can we go from Thy
Spirit, O Lord? and whither shall we
flee from Thy Presence? If we as-
cend up into Heaven, Thou art there!
If we make our Bed in the Grave,
behold Thou art there! If we take
the Wings of the Morning, and dwell
in the uttermost Parts of the Sea,
even there shall Thy Hand lead us,
and Thy right Hand shall hold us!
If we say, surely the Darkness shall

Y

cover

cover us, even the Night shall be Light about us ; yea, the Darknes hideth not from Thee, the Night shineth as the Day, the Darknes and the Light are both alike to Thee !

ADORED be Thy Name, O Lord, for the Proof we have had of Thy constant Presence with us, from the constant, favourable, and gracious Effects of it ! From the Beginning of our Lives, to this Day, hast Thou been with us ; and in our lying down and rising up, in all the Hurry and Business of every Day, and amidst all the Terrors and Darknes of every Night, and in every Place, we have found Thee nigh unto us, as our Friend, our Preserver, and Benefactor ! Thou hast been at our right Hand, that we have not been greatly moved !

BLESSED be Thy Mercy and Compassion, that instead of making us sensible of Thy Presence only by the Terrors of Thy Wrath, which we have too justly deserved, we thus

feel

feel the Comfort of it; and know that Thou art not far from any one of us, by the Good which we enjoy! We are ashamed, and blush to think of all the Sins of our Hearts, and Lives, to which Thou hast been Witness; and are amazed, that ever we should presume to commit them before a God constantly looking on, and taking Notice of us! How horrid and daring an Evil does Sin appear, as committed against Thee, and under Thine All-searching Eye? Lord, we repent, and fly for Mercy and Forgiveness to Thee through Jesus Christ! For his Sake, cast us not away from Thy favourable Presence! but blot out all our Sins, and the Iniquities of our Family; and still watch over, accept, and bless us!

WE desire now solemnly to recommend ourselves to Thy Care and Protection, for the Journey we are designing to undertake, this Day. Being encouraged from our past Ex-

perience of Thy watchful Providence, and comforted with the Thought of Thy Universal Presence, we commit our Ways unto Thee, O Lord ! humbly acknowledging Thee in it, and beg Thou wouldest direct our Paths ! If Thy favourable Presence go not with us, let us not go up from our Habitation !

BUT, as we hope we are undertaking nothing unlawful in itself, nor unfuitable ; we humbly pray, that we may be the Objects of Thy special Care and Protection !--Direct our Course for us, and be with us in the Way in which we go. Keep us from every Evil to which we are exposed ; preserve, we beseech Thee, all our Bones, that not one of them may be broken. Give Thine Angels Charge over us, to keep us that we may not dash our Feet against a Stone to hurt us ! Preserve to us, we beseech Thee, our bodily Health, and may the Journey tend to the confirming and
esta-

establiſhing of it. Let not the Sun ſmite us by Day, nor the Moon by Night; neither ſuffer evil or cruel Men to aſſault us!

PROVIDE for our bodily Wants by the Way; give us Bread to eat, and Raiment to put on! In every Place where we ſhall go may we find Favour, and behave in a proper and becoming Manner. Keep us, we pray Thee, from all Manner of Sin! May we ſet Thee always before us, that ſo we may never venture to be off our Guard, becauſe we are at a Diſtance from thoſe who uſed to obſerve and take Notice of our Conduct at other Times! May we preſerve a Senſe of God and Religion upon our Minds in all Places, and Companies; and take every proper Opportunity to perform the Duties of religious Worſhip. Particularly help us to maintain a conſtant Regard to Thy holy Day, as often as it ſhall return; and inſtead of profaning it by unneceſſary travel-

travelling, or Amusements, keep it holy to Thee the Lord ! May we endeavour to do all the Good we can wherever we go, and so leave a Blessing, and not a Curse, behind us ! And O do Thou succeed and prosper whatever we lawfully undertake ; and sanctify to us our Diversions and Recreations !

MAY we, O Lord, remember to magnify Thy Works, which we shall behold in the Progress of our Journey ! When we observe the Beauty and Variety of them in this Earth on which we tread ; when we shall see Grass made to grow for the Cattle, and Herb for the Service of Man ; or the Pastures cloathed with Flocks, the Valleys covered over with Corn, and the little Hills rejoicing, as it were, on every Side ; may we feel our Hearts rise and burn with Sentiments of Gratitude : and may we offer a rational Devotion to Thee, who crownest

crowneſt the Year with Thy Goodneſs, and whoſe Paths drop Fatneſs!

AND O may our frequent Removes, from one Place to another, put us continually in mind of our unſettled State in this World! May we conſider ourſelves as Pilgrims and Strangers upon Earth, as thoſe who have here no continuing City, but are ſeeking one to come! O may we learn to reckon our whole Life as a Journey towards this everlaſting unchangeable Settlement! And may ſuch a Notion of Life teach us the better to bear and ſtruggle with the Evils and Trials of it, and to be more moderate in our Enjoyment of the Comforts and Delights of it! That ſo we may neither tire nor faint in our Courſe, nor be at a fatal Stand; nor may we ever miſtake our Way, but hold on in it, and hold out unto the End! And may we be guided, through the whole, by Thy Counſel, and at laſt be received to Thy Glory!

WATCH

WATCH over our Habitation, O Lord, we beseech Thee, in our Absence; may Thine Eye be upon it by Night and by Day! keep it safe from devouring Flames, and from the Attempts of wicked Men! May those whom we leave behind in Care of it, be honest, faithful, and diligent; and preserved and rewarded according to their Fidelity and Integrity! and may all our Concerns be taken Care of by Thee! And in Thy due Time may we be returned in Health, Safety, and Comfort; and find our Tabernacle in Peace!

To Thee we recommend our Friends, and all our Fellow-creatures. Mercifully regard our Nation, and our public Affairs! Bless all that are in Authority over us, and may they become Terrors to Evil Doers, and a Praise to them that do well! Bless the Ministers of thy Gospel, and by their Means may the Word of the Lord have free Course, and be glorified!

rified! And in Thee may the Poor, the Widow, and the Fatherless, find Mercy!

ACCEPT of these our Acknowledgments of Thy Perfections, and Providence; and the repeated Dedication of ourselves, and all that belongs to us, to Thy Care: and be Thou our Sun, and our Shield, give us Grace and Glory, and withhold no good Thing from us! We ask all in the Name, and through the Mediation, of Jesus Christ our Lord, of Thee

OUR Father, who art in Heaven: Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever! Amen.

A Family Thanksgiving for a safe
Return from a Journey.

EVER Blessed and Glorious Lord ! Thou, even Thou, art God, and there is none besides Thee ! All the gods of the Heathen are Vanity, and a Lie : Eyes have they, but they see not ; Ears have they, but they hear not ; Hands have they, but they handle not ; neither speak they through their Throats. They that make them are like unto them, and so is every one that trusteth in them. But Thou, Lord, madest the Heavens, and the Earth, and the Sea, and the dry Land, and all that in them is ; and Thou upholdest all Things by the Word of Thy Power ; and Thy Works of Creation, and Providence, proclaim Thee a Being of all possible Perfection !

Thy Mercy, O Lord, is in the Heavens, and Thy Faithfulness reacheth

on Extraordinary Occasions. 171

eth unto the Clouds! Thy Righteousness is unmoveable, as the great Mountains, Thy Judgments are a great Deep! O Lord, Thou preservest Man and Beast!

WE, who have experienced this Thy kind Preservation in our late Journey, are now come, at the End of it, to bless and praise Thy Name! We bow ourselves in Thanksgivings at Thy Footstool, O Thou our Almighty Guardian, for all that Care and Protection wherewith Thou hast befriended us, from the Time we left our Habitation, to this comfortable Return to it! We committed ourselves to Thee by Prayer and Supplication, and trusted in Thy Kind and Fatherly Goodness; and Thou hast heard our Prayers, and blessed us in our going out, and in our coming in: Thou hast kept us from all Evil, and we now visit our Tabernacle, and find all in Safety! Unto Thee, O Lord, do we give Thanks,

unto Thee do we give Thanks, for that Thy Name is near, Thy wonderful Works declare!

THROUGH how many Dangers have we past unhurt, because Thou hast defended us? How many Accidents have we escaped, the least of which might have been too hard for us, because Thou, Lord, hast prevented them? Not a Sparrow falls to the Ground without Thee, our Heavenly Father; and the very Hairs of our Head are all numbred!

WE praise Thee for conducting us from one Place to another, raising up Friends for us, providing for our daily returning Wants, and making our various Removes agreeable and pleasant! We bless Thee for the Continuance of our Health all the Way we have gone, and that we appear before Thee without any just Cause of Sorrow or Complaint; and find our Relations and Friends in Peace, and Health too!

How

How merciful is the Difference Thou hast made between us, and many other Families on this Occasion? How many may have had their Journeys imbittered by dreadful Calamities, or Sickness, or have returned to a ruined Substance, or a destroyed Habitation; while we are in the same Enjoyment of the Favours and Blessings of Providence we were before, and have not suffered the least Interruption!

LORD, what shall we render to Thee? We desire to renew the Dedication of ourselves and our All to Thee, from whom we have received all at first, by whom all is secured to us, and we preserved in the comfortable Use and Enjoyment of all Things! It is not enough for us to speak Thy Praises with our Lips, we desire to feel the constraining Power of Thy Goodness on our Hearts; and to shew forth Thy Praises in our Lives and Conversations!

MAY

174 *Prayers for Families*

MAY we be careful not to forget the Lord our God, who has done us so much Good; lest our Ingratitude be aggravated by Thine additional Favours and Benefits! But may we remember the Lord our God, that it is Him to whom we are indebted, and to whom we are constantly increasing in our mighty obligations! And do Thou, by the Influences of Thy Good Spirit, keep these things on the Imagination of the Thoughts of our Hearts continually; that we may never wickedly depart from Thee, but be engaged thereby to run on in the Way of Thy Commandments with greater Zeal and Vigour!

FORGIVE, we earnestly beseech Thee, all the Sins we have committed since we left this Place! Whatever has been amiss, mercifully pardon! If we have, in any Instances, forgot ourselves, acted out of Character, been off our Guard, given into any faulty Indulgencies, or done any thing which
we

we have just Reason to reproach ourselves for; Lord, forgive us! We renew our Repentance, and take Refuge in the merciful Provision of the Gospel-Covenant, ratified and confirmed in the Blood of Jesus the Great Mediator! Forgive, that we still love Thee so little, who hast so wonderfully loved us; and that we are yet so fond of this vain and changing World, and no more raised in our Desires after a better and everlasting State!

O SHED abroad Thy Love in our Hearts, that we may love Thee with all our Hearts, and with all our Souls, and with all our Strength! And enable us to seek the Things which are above, and to set our Affections there where Christ setteth on the Right Hand of God: that so when Christ, who is our Life, shall appear, we also may appear with Him in Glory!

AND,

AND, now we are returned to our stated Service and Business in Life again, do Thou graciously bless, and prosper us ; and still keep us and our Dwellings from all Evil, and our Affairs from Perplexity and Intanglement: and may we every one be excited, from Thy past Goodness, to go on more contentedly and chearfully in the Way of our Duty ! May we behave gravely, wisely, and usefully, while we live in the World ; and may we, whenever the Time comes, die out of it with Dignity and Honour, and under the strongest Influence of the Hopes of the glorious Gospel of the Blessed God !

GRACIOUSLY, we beseech Thee, regard all whom we ought to remember. Be with all those who are either on Journeys by Land, or Voyages by Sea ; and need the same Mercies of which Thou hast lately made us Partakers ! Preserve them from every Evil by the Way, especially from the
Evil

Evil of Sin ; and return them, as Thou hast done us, to their Houses, and Friends, in Safety, Comfort, and Joy !

MAY all Mankind partake, not only of the Blessings of Thy common Providence, but of Thy Grace, by the Revelation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among them ! Continue to us our national Blessings, and prosper our Governours. And let not only our civil, but our religious Interest flourish.

REMEMBER every Friend and Relative of ours with Thy special Favour ; reward all our Benefactors ; and forgive all that evil intreat us, and turn their Hearts. And do for us, and ours, and all Thine, according to Thine Infinite Wisdom, and Fatherly Goodness ! Forsake not, O Lord, the Work of Thine own Hands, because Thy Mercy endureth for ever ; for the Sake of Jesus Christ our Lord !

A a

Now

178 *Prayers for Families*

Now unto Him that is able to save
and deliver us from every evil Work,
and to preserve us unto his Heavenly
Kingdom: To Him be Glory for
ever and ever! Amen.



A Humi-

Now

A Humiliation, and Prayer, for a Family, when it has greatly suffered by the dreadful Calamity of Fire: To be used either Morning or Evening.

O THOU most Great and Glorious Lord! Thou, even Thou, art God alone! With Thee there is terrible Majesty! Our Hearts stand in awe of Thee, O Thou most High, Almighty Being, and we are afraid of Thy Judgments! We adore, and reverence Thee, O Lord, as the Sovereign, All-wise, and Holy Governor of the World, and the righteous Disposer of us, and all that belongs to us!

AND, as at all Times we desire to be sensible of our Dependence on Thee, for Life, and the Comforts of it, so would we more especially acknowledge that Dependence, with the profoundest Humility, and most

intire Submission to Thy holy Will, when, in the Course of Thy Providence, Thou art pleased to permit any grievous Calamity to befall us; and we are most sensibly taught the Worth of our Mercies, by being deprived of them in a sudden and most distressing Manner!

THIS, O Lord, is the melancholy Condition of us, Thy poor distressed Creatures, at Thy Footstool! We who were lately at Ease, and in Safety in our Dwellings, are now broken to Pieces! We, who but Yesterday were in full Possession of our Property, are now stripped of it! Our Tabernacle has been made desolate, and we are escaped as Firebrands plucked out of the Burning, a Wonder to ourselves, and all around us!

WE are come to own Thy Hand O Lord, in all that has befallen us! For, whatever may have been the immediate Occasion of this Calamity, we are persuaded that it could not
come

come to pass without Thy Permission!
Except the Lord build the House,
they labour in vain that build it; ex-
cept the Lord keep the City, the
Watchman waketh but in vain!
Shall then, the Trumpet be blown,
and the People not be alarmed? Shall
there be Evil in the City and the
Lord hath not done it? It was Thy
Voice, O Thou most holy One, that
has cried in our Streets, that has spok-
en loud and terrible to us in Flames
of Fire! O give us that Wisdom
which shall teach us more to reve-
rence that great and dreadful Name,
the Lord our God! to know the Rod,
and who has appointed it!

RIGHTEOUS art Thou O Lord,
when we plead with Thee; yet suf-
fer us humbly to ask Thee of Thy
Judgments! We are sure Thou dost
never afflict willingly, nor grieve the
Children of Men: We earnestly,
therefore beseech Thee, O Lord, to
show

show us wherefore Thou contendest with us!

IF in the Days of our Peace and Safety we have been apt to forget the Lord our God; surely we are now brought most seriously to remember Thee! Lord, forgive us, that we should need such awfull Rebukes of Thy Providence to awaken and rouse our stupid Souls!----If any Iniquity has been indulged in our Habitation, may we now put it far away!--If, though we have not lived intirely without the Profession of Thy Name, yet, we have grown careless and negligent in our Regards to Thee;---if our Family Worship has been too frequently broken, or omitted, without any becoming Reason; or if we have grown cold and formal in it, and Thou hast taken this Method to bring us to a more regular, steady, and consistent Behaviour: O, may we see and fear, and understand; and walk more closely, seriously, and
humbly

humbly with our God ! Surely, as in many Things we all offend, it is meet for us to say, we have born Chastisement, we will not offend any more ! That which we see not teach Thou us, and wherein we have done Iniquity, we will do so no more !

GRANT, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that every one of us before Thee may, from this Time, have a more habitual lively Sense of the Uncertainty of the good Things of this Life, the Vanity of placing our Dependence on any of them for our Happiness, and the Necessity of having something infinitely better to trust and hope for, as our Portion, than the best of mortal Good ! Teach us, we pray Thee, O Lord, while we labour, as Thy Command and our Duty requires us, to be diligent in our several Stations, for the Meat that perisheth ; to labour more earnestly for that Meat which endureth unto everlasting Life !

AND

AND if Thou shalt see fit once more to settle us in our House, and by Thy kind Providence to bless us with renewed Comfort and Prosperity ; O may we, discover the lasting Effect of that devout Temper of Mind, which we now express before Thee ! May it be our governing Aim, above all Things, to lay up a Treasure in Heaven ; where neither Moth nor Rust can corrupt, where Thieves do not break through and steal ; and of which no Storm, nor devouring Fire, can possibly deprive us. And may we show that we have laid up our Treasure in that better World, by having our Hearts there also !

AND, to this End, O Lord, enable us while we are in the World, to behave with all Christian Prudence, and religious Discretion. May we, while injoying the most valuable Blessings of this Life, rejoice in them, as though we rejoiced not ; weep, for the Loss of them, as though we
wept

wept not ; buy, as though we possessed not ; and use this World, as though we used it not ; because the Fashion of it passeth away !

PITY, O Thou Father of Mercies, Those who are our fellow-Sufferers in this Affliction ! And may they who have escaped it, remember who made the happy Difference ; and how much their Obligation is increased to the God of them, and their Household ! May our Land be the special Charge of Him who was Israel's God ! May our Cities flourish ; and may every one of them be always a City of the most solemn religious Assemblies !

AND may every Alarm we meet with here, in this changing State, prepare us more for that great and solemn Day of the Lord ; when the Heavens being on Fire shall be dissolved, and the Elements shall melt with fervent Heat ; the Earth, also, and all that is therein, shall be burnt

186 *Prayers for Families*

up: that when all these Things shall be dissolved, we may ascend to the nobler Building of God, the House not made with Hands, eternal in the Heavens.---For which we hope only through the Mediation, and Intercession of Jesus Christ our Lord, who is the same Yesterday, and to Day, and for ever:

And to whom, therefore, be Dominion, and Glory for ever! Amen.



A General

A General Thanksgiving, to be used by a Family, at the Close of an Old Year, or the Beginning of a New One.

ALMIGHTY and Eternal Jehovah! Thou art perfectly and supremely Blessed and Happy in Thy Self; and the Fountain of Being, Perfection, and Blessedness to all Thy Creatures! Before the Mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the Earth, and the World, from Everlasting to Everlasting Thou art God!

AND Thou, Lord, in the Beginning, didst lay the Foundations of the Earth; and the Heavens are the Work of Thine Hands! They shall perish, but Thou shalt endure; yea all of them shall wax old like a Garment; as a Vesture shalt Thou change them, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and

Thy Years shall have no End ! A thousand Years, in Thy Sight, are but as Yesterday when it is past, and as a short Watch in the Night : and one Day is with the Lord as a thousand Years !

WE are frail Creatures, but, as it were, of Yesterday ; our Days are short, and like a Shadow ; and all the Days of our Years are threescore Years and ten : or, if by Reason of extraordinary Strength, they reach, with any of our Race, to fourscore Years, yet is their Strength Labour, and Sorrow ; for it is soon cut off, and we flee away. And in Comparison with Thee, O Thou God who inhabitest Eternity, our Age is as nothing, yea less than nothing, and Vanity !

THOU, O Lord, the unmoveable Rock of Ages, and the Stay of the whole Creation, art the only proper Object of Hope, and Trust, to such changing, short-lived, Beings as we
y d f a d d
are !

are! And, for ever blessed be Thy Name, that Thou hast been the Refuge, and the dwelling-Place of the Children of Men in all their Generations!

PRAISED be Thy Name, O God, that instead of abandoning this Earth, and the sinful Inhabitants of it, or destroying them long ago, as Thou mightest justly have done, Thou art still manifesting Thy Care and constant Regard to them! Thou hast never left Thyself without Witness of Thy kind and watchful Providence towards the Children of Men, in that Thou doest them Good continually, and givest them Rain from Heaven, and fruitful Seasons, filling their Hearts with Food and Gladness! Day and Night, Summer and Winter, Seed-Time and Harvest, in their constant Successions, from Year to Year, proclaim Thy Faithfulness! One Generation of Men, therefore, shall praise Thy Name to another,
and

and shall declare Thy mighty Acts !
The Fathers to the Children shall
make known Thy Truth ! They shall
abundantly utter the Memory of Thy
Great Goodness, and shall sing of
Thy Righteousness !

IN the Multitude of Thy tender
Mercies, O Lord, we are come, once
more, to present our Family Worship
at Thy Footstool ! We are sensible
our Goodness cannot possibly extend
to Thee ; but because Thy Goodness
has been continually extended to us,
therefore do we reckon it our indis-
pensable Duty to acknowledge our
constant Obligations To Thee ! Thou
hast made us, and not we ourselves ;
we are Thy People, and the Sheep
of Thy Pasture ! We would come
before Thee with Thanksgiving, and
worship Thee with Praise ! For Thou,
Lord, art Good, Thy Mercy is Ever-
lasting, and Thy Truth endureth
unto all Generations !

HAVING

HAVING obtained Help of Thee,
O God, we continue in Life, and
Health, and the Enjoyment of the
Blessings of Thy Providence, and
Grace, unto this Hour! We adore
Thee as the God of our Lives, the
Length of our Days, and the Author
and Giver of every good Thing we
partake of! Thou broughtest us into
the World at first, Thou didst pre-
serve us in the helpless State of In-
fancy, keep us from the innume-
rable Evils to which we were then
exposed, and make us to hope when
we hung upon the Breast! It was
Thine Hand, tho' unseen, that led
us unhurt through Childhood, and
the slippery Paths of Youth! Un-
numbered Benefits and Favours have
we received from Thee, before ever
we were capable of knowing, and ac-
knowledging, from whence they came!
And still, with every returning Year,
have Thy Blessings and Mercies been
continually multiplied upon us!

THOU

THOU hast raised up Friends for us, Thou hast been with us in six Troubles, and in seven hast Thou not forsaken us! How often hast Thou healed our Diseases, and removed our Sicknesses, and renewed our Strength and Vigour!

THOU hast graciously fixed us in our Family, and continued Family Supports and Comforts to us! Thy Candle has shone upon our Tabernacle, Thou hast blessed us in our Basket, and in our Store; Thy Wool and Thy Flax have clothed us; Thy Corn, and Thy Wine, and Thine Oil, have nourished, refreshed, and cheared us! We would recollect Thy constant Care and Kindness, and say, with the most thankful Hearts, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us! Surely Goodness and Mercy have followed us all the Days of our Lives!

BUT, above all, would we bless Thee for Thy Kindness to our Souls! We thank Thee, O Father, Lord of
Heaven

Heaven and Earth, that we are born in a Christian Land, where we have the Knowledge of the Gospel, and the Means of obtaining Salvation by Jesus Christ! We praise Thee that our Ears hear those glad Tidings of Life and eternal Happiness, revealed by Thine own Son in our Nature, which many Prophets, and Kings, and Righteous Men, have desired to hear, but have not heard them! and that our Eyes have seen those glorious Things which they have desired to see, but have died without the Sight!

ESPECIALLY would we bless Thee, if any of us have had the Privilege of being born of religious Parents; if we have been betimes taught to know God our Father, and Jesus our Saviour; if we have been, as it were, born in Thine House, solemnly dedicated to Thee, brought up in the Nurture and Admonition of the Lord; and if Thy Providence has

C c

cast

cast our Lot into the Families of those that fear Thy Name, and we have had both Precept, and Example, and the Ministrations of the Gospel, to quicken and encourage us in the Practice of Religion and Virtue! If we are the People that have been in such a happy Case, for ever blessed and praised be the Lord our God! O that none of us may receive the Grace of God in vain!

WE desire, now, particularly, as a Family, to bless Thee, O Lord, that Thou hast added another Year to our Lives, and hast crowned that also with Thy Goodness both to our Bodies, and our Souls! Blessed be God, we are not numbered among the Multitudes that have died out of our World the last Year, and passed into an awful Eternity; but are still in the Land of the living! Thousands have fallen at our right Hand, and ten thousand at our left, and yet we are escaped, and are here before Thee,
the

the Monuments of Thy kind Preservation, and of Thy Praise!

WE bless and magnify Thee for the constant uninterrupted Enjoyment of Eamily-Blessings through the Year! If we have had constant Health, Thanks to Him, and to Him alone, who has been the Health of our Countenance and our God! Or if we have at sometimes been, any of us, visited with Affliction; yet blessed be God for the Gentleness of his Chastisements, for our Recovery and Restoration; and that we now appear together rejoicing in Thy Mercy and Salvation!

WE praise Thee for continuing to us the Comforts of Life through the Year, and keeping off those Evils and Calamities from us, by which other Families have been sadly injured if not ruined! and, if in the Year past Thou hast blessed the Labour of our Hands, and succeeded our Affairs, we would remember that

196 *Prayers for Families*

it is Thou, O Lord, who givest Wisdom to increase our Store, and who alone makest whatsoever we do to prosper ; and would give to Thee the Praise and Glory !

WE bless Thee for preserving us by Night and by Day, and for taking Care of us wherever we have gone ; so that no Evil has befallen us, no Plague has come nigh our Dwelling ! Thine Eye, O Lord, has constantly watched over us and ours, from the Beginning of the Year to the End of the Year !

MORE especially would we bless Thee for Thy continuing to us the Means of Grace, and the Ordinances of Thy Gospel ! That we have had the Enjoyment of Sabbaths, and Sacraments ; that we have still Line upon Line, and Precept upon Precept ; and that Thou art yet continuing the Strivings of Thy Good Spirit with our Hearts ; is all owing to the Riches of Thy Goodness, and Forbearance,
and

and Long-suffering: by which Thou art sparing us in a State of Trial, art giving us Space, and such abundant Means, for Repentance, and securing our eternal Savation!

SURELY Thy Ways, O Lord, are not as ours, nor are Thy Thoughts as ours; else we had long ago been consumed! No, Blessed be Thy Name, we are not consumed, amidst all the Dangers to which we are exposed, amidst our numberless, repeated Provocations; because Thy Compassions fail not!

How different has been Thy Conduct towards us, from ours towards Thee! All Thy Ways, O Lord, have been Goodness and Mercy; all suited to win upon our Hearts, to engage our Affections to Thee, and to fix us for Thee: but our Ways have been, in many Instances, too froward and perverse; our Wills have been ungovernable; our Affections vain, wandering, and earthly; and our Hearts
and

and Souls too much under the Influence of Sense ! How often hast Thou called, and we have refused to hearken ! stretched out Thine Hand, but we have not regarded ! How little has constant uninterrupted Kindness made us grateful to Thee ! How little have the Terrors of Thy Word, and the Chastenings of Thy Rod, awed these stubborn Hearts of ours to Obedience ! When we have been for any considerable Time without Changes in our Family, or Affairs, we have been too apt to forget Thee, and neglect that Fear and Reverence which is Thy Due ; and when we have been passing through various Changes, at other Times, we have been too apt to murmur and repine, instead of submitting to Thy Holy Will with the proper and becoming Temper !

THE best of us have abundant Cause to humble ourselves, that we are no better ! That we come so very short of what Thou mightest justly expect from us !

us ! We have been like Trees planted by the Rivers of Water ; O that we had brought forth Fruit in the expected Seasons, in some measure, worthy of Him by whom we have been thus planted, and watered, and blessed with all spiritual Blessings, in heavenly Things, in Christ Jesus ! But we have Reason to be ashamed at our Unprofitableness, our Unfruitfulness, and that our Goodness has so often been no better than the Morning Cloud, and the early Dew that passeth away !

THOU mightest justly have cut us down in Anger ; but, adored be Thy Name, we are let alone this Year also ! And for what hast Thou spared us, O Lord, but that we may repent us of all we have done amiss, and resolve to amend our Ways ? We do unfeignedly repent us of all our Sins ; we do take Shame to ourselves for all our Transgressions and Provocations ! We are heartily sorry, that so
much

much of the past Year has been Witness to so many repeated Failings, and Follies, as well as (with regard to some of us it is to be feared) greater Sins ! And we see how our Iniquities are aggravated by Thy continued never failing Bounty, and Goodness !

WICKED indeed have we been, to sin against such a God ! So foolish, so ignorant have we been, and worse than Brutes before Thee ! We confess our Sins, we are ashamed of our selves, and blush to lift up our Faces to Thee !

AND we would come and confess our Sorrow, and Grief ! We would take with us Words, and turn unto Thee, O Lord, and say ; if Thou, Lord, shouldest be strict to mark Iniquities, O Lord, who can stand ? For then in Thy Sight no Flesh living could be justified ! But there is Forgiveness with Thee, that Thou mayest be feared, and loved. And through Jesus Christ, the Great Atonement,
we

we may hope to obtain the Remission of all our Sins, and an Interest in Thy Favour ! In his Name we plead for pardon ! Lord, Take away all our Iniquities from us, receive us graciously, and love us freely ! O let all our past Sins be blotted out, and may we not live on in a new Year under the Weight of unpardoned Guilt ! But may we be washed, and sanctified, and justified, in the Name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God !

AND O that this New Year we are entering upon, may witness to our greater Reformation from every Thing that is amiss in us ; and our being more and more renewed in the Spirit of our Minds ! May all old Things be done away ; and may we learn, more heartily, to approve and practise Thy Good, and Holy, and Acceptable Will ! It is our earnest Desire, to live better than we have done. It

is our fixed Resolution to amend our Ways, whereinfoever we know we have done wrong. And our Prayer is to Thee, O Thou God of all Grace, for Thine Assistance, and the influence of Thy Holy Spirit, to establish all our good Purposes, and render all our Endeavours in the Practice of Holiness successful, and effectual! May this Grace be always sufficient for us, and Thy Strength made manifest in our Weakness; that so we may be enabled to be faithful unto Death, and at last obtain a Crown of Life!

AND now, O Lord, to Thee we most solemnly recommend ourselves, and our Family, for the ensuing Year! If Thou seest fit to spare us all through it, may it be in Mercy to every one of us! And, if it be Thy Holy Will, we pray that we may be let alone another Year! that if there should be any here who as yet have
been

been quite Cumberers of the Ground, they may at last bring forth some Fruit; and that others of us may become more and more fruitful still, and so glorify our Father who is in Heaven! We would not desire Life, merely for the Sake of living in this World, but chiefly as it is an Opportunity for honouring Thee, our God, for promoting the Interest of the Redeemer, and doing Good to our fellow-Creatures. For these Purposes we pray that Thou wouldest spare us, Good Lord! And O that we may not contradict such Desires and Purposes by our after Conduct!

ALL our worldly Concerns we commit to Thy Care; and beg that we may pass the Year in those Circumstances which Thou knowest to be best for us! If it be so, may we have Health, and the Comforts of Life, continued without any Interruption! If not, prepare us for Sicknes, and

every Change through which Thou shalt think proper to lead us ! And if, after all, Thou shalt think proper for us to make our great Change before this Year shall end, may we be ready for it : and, all the Days of our appointed Time, may we be waiting till this most important Change shall come !

WE desire to fix all our Schemes, as to Time, with an humble Submission to Thy Will ! If the Lord will, we purpose to do one Thing, or another, in our several Stations ; but we dare not say, absolutely, we will do them ; when we consider our Life to be no more durable than a Vapour, which appeareth for a little while, and then vanisheth away ! O Lord, so teach us to number our remaining few and evil Days, that we may apply our Hearts unto Wisdom !

WE praise Thee, O Lord, for national Mercies the Year past, and humbly implore the Continuance of them !

them ! We are indeed, the Land which Thou, the Lord our God, hast cared for ; O may we still be the Objects of Thy Care and Kindness ! Blessed be God for Temporal and Spiritual Mercies ; for the Health and Plenty of our Land ; and for the Continuance of Thy Gospel among us, after all our past Abuse of the Riches of Thy Goodness, and Forbearance, and Long-suffering ! May we at last be reformed ! Continue to bless to us our civil Government : spare our King and his Family to us ; and succeed all our Counsels for the increasing Welfare and Happiness of the Land ! May our Poor be satisfied with Bread, and may there be no just Cause of Complaining in our Streets !

MAY Thy Gospel still continue ; and may it be more successful on the Hearts of Ministers, and Hearers !

AND O that this may be the acceptable Year of the Lord to those Nations

Nations that have hitherto sat in Darkness, and in the Shadow of Death ! How long, O Lord, Holy and True, shall Ignorance blind, and Error and Superstition pervert, the Minds of reasonable Creatures ! O that the Year of the redeemed may come ! How long, O Lord, Holy and True, 'ere Persecution for Conscience Sake shall cease ! Hasten the Blessed Time, we pray Thee, when they shall no more hurt or destroy in all Thy Holy Mountain !

To Thee, O Lord, we earnestly commend our Friends and Relations, and all we are concerned for. Mercifully regard them all ; and make the following Year truly happy to them, as well as to us ! And graciously accept our Offering, and bless the Offerers, through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who ever lives, to make Intercession for us !

Now

on Extraordinary Occasions. 207

Now unto Him who is the Blessed
and only Potentate, The King of
Kings, and Lord of Lords; who
only hath Immortality, dwelling
in the Light which no Man hath
seen, nor can see; To Him be Ho-
nour and Power Everlasting! Amen.

The E N D.





and took God give him
Grace oh just to keep and
When the bell doth for
him toll the door is
been Jesus we his soul
we cannot know if we and keep for
we can have or not do doh me as has

Handwritten text in the left margin, partially visible, including the words "the" and "of".